

THE
Historical, Political, and Literary
REGISTER.

CONTAINING
An Account of every PUBLIC TRANSACTION.

AND
REMARKABLE PRODUCTION

NECESSARY TO ILLUSTRATE THE
HISTORY, LITERATURE,

AND
PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS

Of the YEAR 1769.

To be continued annually.

VOL. I.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

IN all prefatory addresses there is necessarily, from the very nature of them, so much matter of form, that it is not easy, nor indeed very modest, to hope for a favourable prepossession of the reader, from any introductory recommendation, or indeed from any thing but from what claim to merit there may appear in the execution of the undertaking itself.—To confess the truth, there have been so many magnificent promises, so ill, or rather not at all, performed, that but for the necessity of prefixing some account of the nature of the intended work, any preface to raise extraordinary expectations would be more likely to defeat than to promote that end.

The object of this work is to offer annually to the public a clear, interesting, satisfactory view of historical, political, and literary intelligence.—In the volume now submitted to the judgment of the readers, the transactions, in Europe, for the year 1769, are circumstantially specified, with that degree of freedom and impartiality which the public has so great a right to expect from a work calculated for its information and entertainment.

As to the variety of subjects designed to be digested into so comprehensive a plan as that of these annals, nothing can be more apparent than the necessity of distributing the different branches into different hands: the advantage of which will evidently appear on a candid perusal of the articles under the titles of

- I. *The State of Parties in Britain at the Accession of His present Majesty George III.*
- II. *Sketch of the State of Arts and Sciences, and of Polite Learning.*
- III. *The Theatrical Register.*

On the last of these, the Editors cannot avoid observing, that as the progress of the drama is in its nature an object of universal attention, such as live remote from the capital will here find what has been long wanted and wished for; a regular history of theatrical

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trical amusements, exhibiting at one view a list of every performance at the different theatres; with such remarks and criticisms as are calculated to enable them to form a judgment of the excellence or defect of a species of entertainment, at which a distance of residence, or other causes, may not admit of their personal inspection.—Nor is this department of the work without its importance to such as have had opportunities of attending the theatres, since it may contribute, in some degree, towards forming or fixing the judgment of those who might wish to be put into the way of examining the merits of theatrical representations by the standard of criticism: it may also afford to others arrived to a greater maturity of taste and discernment, the satisfaction of coolly reviewing in the closet what may have given them pleasure on the theatre.

Upon the whole, it is hoped by the Editors of this work, that it will be found not entirely undeserving of a place among those productions which contribute to advance useful knowledge, and afford rational entertainment to persons in every station of life, upon the plan of a methodised register of every remarkable occurrence in the political and literary world.—Such, at least, is the intention of the proprietors of this work, who are far from aiming at detraction from the merit and just pretensions of any present or future competitors.

In a word, no expence, no care will be spared towards rendering *The Historical, Political, and Literary Register*, worthy of the countenance and encouragement of the public.

DISSE R-

D I S S E R T A T I O N
ON THE
S T A T E O F P A R T I E S
IN
B R I T A I N
AT THE
ACCESSION of His present MAJESTY
G E O R G E I I I.

I N T R O D U C T I O N.

THERE is hardly that subject in the whole circle of objects of political curiosity, which can more essentially concern a reader, than the one indicated by the title prefixed to this essay; at the same time, there is undoubtedly no subject on which he has less reason to expect satisfactory truth. The cause is obvious. It is not easy to suppose any writer so clear spirited, so totally exempt from the spirit of party, on one side or another, as to be qualified for a task which, for justice to be done to it, indispensably requires a perfect impartiality, a perfect independence.

Unfortunately too for nearly the same reason, that there are so few writers above objection, there are proportionably as few readers whose minds are not warped by some party-prejudice, some humour, some passion, some bias,

in short, which renders them as unfit to read with judgment, as the others are to write with truth. This too is nothing but natural in the present position of things, since all parties having their respective faults and weak sides, detest the light that exposes them to the public and to themselves; and thence it is, that among them all truth makes enemies and no converts. Thence it is, that the greater, the superior advantage, which the light of truth would infallibly bring to the generality of all parties, is meanly sacrificed to the false and momentary interest that a few individuals of them find in the prevalence of falsities which themselves have invented, propagated, and established on the credulity of their respective followers and bubbles.

A Tory dislikes that mirror of truth, which holds up to him the
B 3 ridicule

ridicule and deformity of his exploded tenets of indefeasible right, passive obedience, and non-resistance, even while he is himself ashamed to own them, though from party-attachments, from family-connections, or from obstinacy and the narrow spirit of party, he cherishes and adheres to the absurd distinction.

A Whig, on the other hand, mixes resentment with shame, at being forced to confess that a character so justly entitled to the public esteem, by its sound and sacred principles of liberty, has been vilely abused, as has been lately manifestly the case, by men who had taken that name in vain, only as to their country, but very effectually as to themselves, whose purposes of avarice and ambition it has so glaringly promoted, to the eternal reproach of a credulous and deceived nation. These impostors especially can never be imagined favourable to the truth, that unmasks and exposes them.

If you pursue divisions farther, and consider parties as distinguished by the appellations of Court and Country, which, generally speaking, are but other words for placemen, and would-be-placemen, they have each their respective objections to that spirit of truth, which marks, with a just contempt of both, those trivial characters, a courtier generated out of the corruption of a patriot, or a patriot made out of the turned and soured milk of a courtier, and seeing through the impudent falsity of their several airs, laughs at their pretext, and disdains their motives.

The court-party, who undoubtedly constitute the servile class of the nation, and who characteristi-

cally enough join the utmost influence to the utmost meanness, cannot be extremely pleased at a truth that would shew them in the just light of men renouncing their native dignity, and with the most manifest falsity pretending loyalty to their sovereign, and a regard for his honour and interests, while, in fact, they are but subservient to some little passion of his, some wretchedly mistaken point of court policy, not only totally pernicious to the national system, but, what is very consequential to such a circumstance, highly prejudicial to the sovereign himself, whose good it is absolutely treason to himself, to consider or treat as abstracted or possible to be separated from the good of his people; for whose sake he alone reigns, and whose discontents would to a prince of any spirit or sense of honour, render a throne less eligible than the being obliged to beg his bread from door to door.

But if the courtiers find in truth so distasteful an adversary, those who form what is called the country-party, or the opposition, can as little be pleased at a light which could hardly fail of destroying the greatest tenure of their popularity, by reducing their merits and pretensions to their just estimate. If you, in fact, strike off from the lists of most, or of rather all oppositions,

First, The ring-leaders of party, commonly actuated by pique, by self-interest, by private passions; who have the impudence to erect the standard of liberty, and of the public good, for which these rank adventurers and traders in patriotism never at bottom cared five farthings :

zdly,



2dly, Such as embark in a faction, and sometimes take the lead in one, merely to be talked of, to be the vulgar heroes of the day, to raise themselves into a notice or conspicuity, which nothing else but their mock-zeal and furious nonsense could have procured them; Incendiaries, who would rather have our laws and liberties perish in the flames of their kindling, than not have the honour of shining by the blaze of them:

3dly, Such as are unwarily drawn in by connections, which do not leave them the liberty of their own sense and judgment, to preserve them from the contagion of party-prejudices:

4thly, Others again who are merely incited by a native restlessness, a natural spirit of contradiction and gloomy discontent, especially where combined with their pride, offended at their not being consulted, or their opinions not followed:

Strike, I say, off the above described, with all such, in short, as can never with any shadow of reason, be more suspected of any real regard for the nation, than the most prostitute or the most servile courtiers, and you will find the number reduced to a very small one indeed of real honest well-principled men, who in their opposition have no view but the public good, and the redress of their country's injuries and grievances. Yet even from these laudably actuated few, if you subtract such of them as with weak shallow understandings have the misfortune of allying presumption and obstinacy to their acknowledged probity, and who having condemned with precipitation and peremptoriness such mea-

asures and transactions, as they were in fact incapable of judging, and who, perfectly right in their principles, but totally wrong in the application of them, make to themselves a point of honour of defending their error, and of cherishing their deceptions; men who are, from the excellence of their characters in other respects, always emphatically quoted by the party-leaders, who know their foible, and in their heart secretly despise them, while they are misguiding and imposing on them: subtract, I say, from even the few well-intentioned in the ranks of faction, these bubbles to the bad designs of others, and to their own good ones, and you will hardly not confess, that the estimate of the intrinsic value of an opposition by the solidity of its pretences, or by the number of its forces, is liable to a terrible discount.

All these parties then however really, or rather nominally opposite, for at bottom they have, in general, a center of union in their rank selfishness, grossly covered by the falsest pretexts; they are all, I say, for obvious reasons, naturally enemies to the truth, which respectively and indiscriminately shews them to themselves and to the world.

In these, truth has active enemies, whose dislike or aversion is, in fact, the highest recommendation, and gives her even a lustre. But her passive enemies are yet worse, those who detest her from the spiritlessness of downy indolence, averse to every truth, in proportion especially to its importance, as the more tending to disturb their lethargy, or to put that terrible violence on them, the en-

gaging them to *think*. To these eternal infants every thing that, instead of lulling them faster asleep, aims at rousing them to manly exertion, is sovereignly disgusting. To them, a state of reflexion is a state of torture, nor do they ever forgive an attempt to force them into it, though even for their own greatest honour, for their own greatest interest.

Yet of all the injustices of such partial classes of readers, there is not one more cruel, nor more common, than judging of a writer's inclinations, from what they find in him unfavourable to their own respective party or opinion, and without hesitation pronouncing him guilty of a breach of that impartiality, which is the indispensable qualification of every one that presumes to lay his thoughts before the public. Nor is such a neutrality his only duty. It is not enough that he means to propose nothing but the strictest truth, he must have used the utmost diligence and precaution against the being himself led into errors and mistakes. Humanly speaking, a total exemption from them is impossible; but a candid and generous reader will easily see where that concern for truth has been really the aim; and in favour of the evident intention, make an indulgent allowance for inevitable fallibility, both of knowledge and of judgment.

To my proposed discussion then, I have prefixed the above sincere professions of perfect neutrality, in order that any deviation which can be fairly imagined a designed one from the strictest laws of truth and impartiality, may make me liable to the severer condemnation

for having swerved from my duty, without having to plead my ignorance of it.

If certain public measures and transactions shall here be stated in a light that to the reader may appear false or unjust; it will only be, because I shall have had the misfortune to view them in that light, for want of better judgment to defend me from my error of apprehension. But this I dare aver, that nothing shall slip me designedly to mislead or impose on any one. It would be the highest impudence in me to presume, that I am not myself deceived, even after all my care to avoid it; but the wilful deception of others, will, I hope, be felt to have been my utter averfion and disdain: since my ever discovering that I had innocently fallen into that circumstance, would cause to me the greatest regret; without the solemn retraction of my mistake giving me no other than pleasure in the acquitting myself of the duty.

THIS declaration premised, I come to the purpose of the present sheets; the subject of which, necessarily leads back to some remoter epochs, and especially to the beginning of the last war with France, 1756, which terminated in 1762; and as relatively to this nation it has been long observed, that the state of parties decides of the state of the nation, and of its measures, foreign and domestic, the giving here a fair account of the parties of preceding times, forms the leading light to the knowledge of the state of things at the juncture of the king's accession to the throne.

Proceeding then from requisite antecedences to the accession of his present

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present majesty, it is necessary to observe, that the distinction of the two parties of *Whigs* and *Tories* was precedently thereto still subsisting, though in a much fainter degree than it formerly had been; and was, in truth, verging to a total abolition, when it was unfortunately set on foot again by men, who having or presuming an interest in keeping up that distinction, raised it afresh with more violence and more absurdity than ever.

The Tories had in general moderated much of their antient fervor and attachment to one of the greatest absurdities that ever could dishonour the human understanding; the tenets of indefeasible right, and of arbitrary, or rather of not sufficiently limited power; for it would be really doing them an injustice, to insinuate that they were ever ideots enough to believe inwardly what they outwardly disavowed, that such an horror as despotism could ever be constitutional to this nation. As men, however, as subjects, they could not but feel that the antient, and no longer just prejudices against them of the public, were hurtful to their interest and pretensions, in quality of common subjects of a government, under which they peaceably acquiesced, and which they, in fact, appeared to acknowledge, and very probably did cordially acknowledge.

Indeed many of them, and especially the most sensible, had long renounced their absurd and exploded principles, and continued only under the name of Tories, rather as an hereditary appendage, from the force of their family-connexions, and from the habit of

being called so, than for any tenderness they retained for the political notions to which that nickname was originally owing. It might appear invidious to specify such families vulgarly reputed *Tories*; but it will be easy for any one who knows any thing of our modern history to recollect them, as well as many *Whig* families, who stand in the like predicament of being indebted for the distinction of that appellation to descent, to habit, to connexions, without ever being suspected of a grain of the principle which first gave the title to it.

Those, however, of the other party, who had, *bona fide*, discovered in their old Tory tenets their egregious falsity, the inconsistency of them with the greatest good on earth, Liberty, and who consequently were, by such a renunciation, perfectly intitled to an equal right with the rest of the British subjects, of what denomination soever, to honours, to emoluments, to places of trust and power, were naturally shocked and incensed at finding, that instead of meeting with the encouragement they deserved, the ministers for the time being, who were in actual possession of power and influence, affected to look on them with a jealous eye. This was unquestionably less owing to a real diffidence of their sincerity, than to their being seen by them rather in the light of rivals and competitors, than in that of fellow subjects, that were come to a right sense of things, and to a more constitutional way of thinking. Upon this plan, they imagined their best game was to keep up the inveteracy of popular prejudice against them,

them, which, had they been capable of a more noble, and a more rational procedure, they would have made a point of honour in concurring to explode. But no; the people of power at that time exerted, and but too successfully exerted their influence to preserve alive that sick and dying distinction between Whig and Tory, and not only impressed the sovereign with it, but the multitude, ever more governed by sounds to which they have been long accustomed, than by the essence of things, which, in truth, had reduced those sounds to nearly utter senselessness or unmeaning. For nothing is, on any the least reflexion, more clear than that the generality of both parties, the Whigs and the Tories were equally met at that middle point, which ought to have become a center of union to them; the acquiescence under the government settled by law, and a detestation of despotism. As to the few of both parties, who might still adhere to the respective extremes of each, the attachment to a popish pretender on one side, and a zeal for a sheer republican system on the other, they were so inconsiderable for numbers, and especially the first for sense and abilities, that these especially are beneath concern or mention.

As to such as preferred the republican plan of government, their object was certainly the noblest, and of the two infinitely the most defensible; their folly principally consisted in imagining, that considering the long establishment of monarchy, so inseparably interwoven with the very vitals of our present constitution, and with-

al so happily limited by the laws, as to be rather a guard against licentiousness, than incompatible with civil liberty; it would be eligible to risk all the hazards of a change so violent, from a state manifestly and practically a good one, into a state only presumably a better one; to hazard, I say, a certainty for a bare contingency of advantage, even if the corruption of the times admitted of a hope of seeing virtue enough still remaining, as that such patriots might be found as would undertake a change which would insure to the nation superior benefits. Who can have forgot Cromwell's wading through a sea of British blood, to the accomplishment of his declared end, a commonwealth; and when accomplished, basely and villainously betraying the people that trusted him, and setting up in his own person, a despot more intolerable than him whom he had so spiritedly dethroned, tried, condemned, and executed? It may be here objected, that it is not fair to form a general conclusion from a particular instance. True. But it would surely be inexcusable not to receive impressions of distrust, from the example of the treachery and falling off of so great a man, if we may call a man great, who could so meanly betray that confidence in him of the people, which had carried him up to that giddy height, at which his head grown dizzy, precipitated him into that abyss of inconsistency and perfidy, which made him stoop so low as to aim at picking up the crown from out of the dirt, down into which himself had thrown it, where it still retained enough of its false brilliants

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to tempt his wish, to clap it upon his own head, so weakly turned, when he might have secured to himself the immortal honour of being the founder of a commonwealth, which humanly speaking, might soon have bid fair to eclipse Athens and rival Rome.

The Tories had, however, without its being necessary to assign for it any latent remains of an old absurd renounced principle, double reason for detesting a Mock-whig ministry.

The first, and probably the most powerful one was, their encountering in them perpetual obstacles to their own private interest and ambition. They could not be extremely pleased with finding all the avenues to favour, to places, to preferment, with their incident advantages, blocked up by adversaries who fomented and envenomed the popular diffidence of their party, and turned it meanly enough to the account, not only of keeping them out of power, but of keeping themselves in, by persuading the king and the nation, that the interests of the one, and the liberty and property of the other, were safe in no hands but theirs; which, therefore required to be strengthened towards the exclusion of such horrid enemies to both; and, in fact, both king and people swallowed this nonsense, in virtue of an inveterate prejudice, which had indeed been originally not an unjust one, but which time and better sense had almost wholly rendered not only vain, but highly impolitical; since a very little condescension and good management, might have produced an abolition of that false and per-

nicious distinction, which made the king imagine it necessary to govern by a party, so manifestly interested to make him believe so. Thus true it is, that old sounds often fatally retain an influence, after that the original cause of them has ceased and ~~ce~~nished. In short, the Whigs, or rather the Mock-whigs of the times, knew perfectly their advantage, and had neither the spirit nor the honour of disdaining to take it, in giving to the Tories that opprobrious name of *Jacobites*, which was at once so false, and so fit to injure them with the multitude, who are generally governed by sounds, without standing to examine the propriety of them. Neither could the Tories, with the like efficacy, by way of reprisals, recriminate on the Whigs the appellation of Republicans, which, strong as it is of liberty, stands very justly rather a term of favour with the people, than of reproach, there being no objection to it, but its being a most ridiculous chimera, to expect from the disinterestedness of such patriots as the times produce, the new modelling a constitution which seems so perfectly naturalized to this country.

Another cause of the Tories aversion to the whig-ministry of the day, was that at once irksome and scandalous situation of being compelled by an evident necessity for a government of some kind, to submit to the administration of personages whom they had a right to despise, if but for their being so like to themselves; for nothing is more certain than that in the points of avarice and ambition they were pretty near upon a par:

par: and as to worthlessness and insignificance, after the Tories loss of *lord Bolingbroke* thro' his contempt of them, and of *Sir William Wyndham*, by a natural demise, they had not a single man of great abilities or talents, left. Their adversaries were not a jot better off: nothing could be more despicable, in general, than the heads of the Whigs, except the heads of the Tories. This very circumstance did not a little contribute to gall these last. It must naturally sour them the more to find the king, the nation, and themselves, shamefully subjected to the meanest and lowest of men, who had no genius, no idea of keeping their superiority but by the most execrable of all tenures, that of a corruption, fatally for this country reduced into a system, with such amazing effrontery, that it was avowedly erected into a political necessity, and went currently under the specification of *charges of government*. Upon which occasion it is but fair, it is but just, to observe that the two first authors and conductors of this noble plan of governing precisely by corruption, were not themselves avaricious. The first, it is true, in proportion to his origin, made an astonishing great provision for his family and friends, but was himself clear and untainted with that vice of little souls. The other, his successor, who had served his apprenticeship under him, was not only profuse of his own fortune, but had the merit of being very unlike *Catiline*, in the other point, since he was never accused of coveting that of others. Both these ministers then, themselves personally uninfected with avarice, contented

themselves with being pandars to that of others: and both were far from scrupulous in lavishing the public money, and in prostituting the offices of the nation, to the purposes of administration, a word which at bottom principally meant their own continuation in power. A power from which their sovereign was not a whit more exempt than the mass of his subjects, the Tories consequently included; who, as fond as they might be supposed of slavery, might not however be overpleased with such a state of enslavement to the most worthless of their fellow-subjects. Nor was it any thing less. The ministers of that time treated the king himself like a negroe, or rather worse yet, as *their* accomplice, in fleecing the nation for the most unnational purposes, or rather for no purpose at all. For the plunging this country over head and ears into *debt* and danger by continental broils and embarrassment, had absolutely not a single view, or any thing like a view but getting money, to be lamentably thrown away in loans rendered irrecoverable by the false policies and absurdity of the very measures, on which the pretext for getting that money was founded. By this miserable hank, I say, on their sovereign, did these ministers tyrannize over him, and rob his people! And this they had the impudence to attempt and succeed in passing for *service*, yes, *service* to both! This they called by the respectable name of his Majesty's Government, when, in fact, they made him constantly feel that the public measures and offices of the state, were more at their own disposal than his, who in consideration

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ration of the sum they had engaged to procure for his own very silly use, or rather misuse, seemed to have farmed out to them the whole authority of the crown, with the revenue and credit of the nation, of both which they made a most dreadful havock; as now fatally appears from the state of the national debt, the greatest part by much of which was incurred, not only unnecessarily to the political interests of this country, but directly contrary to them. Unfortunately for this country, the baneful glare of successes, attended by the irresistible valour of the British nation, so dazzled the commonalty, as to render them blind to the eternal reproach they were incurring to the national policy. Then it was that the rankest treason to this country was not only authorised by the parliament, rewarded by the crown, but applauded and paid for by the people, who consenting to the mischief that was done to them, thankfully suffered themselves to be fleeced and sent to the shambles in a cause that was diametrically opposite to that of their country. Nay, his late Majesty seemed endeared to them by the very measures that were the most detrimental to them; which is not quite inconsistent with the procedure of a people by whom we have seen another sovereign, abused by his loving subjects, for precisely those very points for which, well-considered, they ought to have erected to him a statue in their hearts.

The truth nowever is, that his late majesty was himself sensible of his having been by his ministers reduced to the condition of such a precarious, un-

certain, wavering power, as was at bottom nothing better than a dishonourable dependence: degraded into the character of occasionally a cringing *subaltern* to his own ministers. Yet such was his tenaciousness of his fatal system of having the Hanoverian and German troops stand as often and as long as he could in the British pay-books, that feeling himself in chains, he had not the political courage to break them; but sacrificed every other consideration to his predominant chimera, a chimera ruinous to this country, ruinous even to Hanover itself, and especially dishonourable to his head; I don't say, to his heart, because it is presumable, that his heart was much the best of the two.

Unfortunately then, for their country, there were found some men of power and of a popularity gained by their being of Whig-families, who had influence enough to persuade the king, that to carry his most unroyal point, it was necessary to arm them with his authority, and to leave them the means of disposing of every thing for that purpose.

At this fatal epoch commences the merely *nominal* reign of our kings, and the *real* one of their ministers, the Mock-whigs, who, false to their sovereign, false to their country, false to that ever-respectable name of True Whigs, contracted an infinitely worse guilt than that of attempting to destroy the constitution by overt-acts of violence, immediately to be felt and consequently to be opposed; they proceeded by that silent sap of corruption, at once so dishonourable to the seducers and to the seduced.

Yet

Yet with all the horrors of this means of government, reduced into system and method, there was mixed something exquisitely ridiculous and farcical.

Let any one try, what is very easy, to figure to himself, and then not laugh, (which one would imagine rather difficult) at the scene of one of these hoary absurd ministers of corruption, sitting with all the solemnity and swell of state-airs, at a desk, with a list of the candidates for the House of Commons before him, when something of the nature of the following soliloquy on the canvass might be safely sworn to have passed.

"This man will never do; he is too shrewd, too sensible, too untractable: he will never submit to vote plumb as we shall direct him. He will have the impudence to think for himself, and for what he calls his Country. He is to be kept out at any rate, cost what it will. Clap the obelisk of reprobation † on his name."—Now to the next.

"This man's great-grandfather and grandfather were Tories; set him down for a rank Jacobite; not that I imagine he cares, at bottom, more for James, than I do for George; or has a jot more of principle than myself: but I do not like his connexions: he will hold himself up too high: I can get a cheaper bargain. He is out of the question.

"Oh! as for Mr. Double, he is rather a slippery card. There can be no hold on him but by his interest, on our coming up to his price; which is

"not a very modest one. However, though he can absolutely do us no service, he may do us a devilish deal of mischief. Mark him *D* for Dubious, that we may deal eventually with him. If we cannot prevent the making him a member, we are, at the worst, sure of buying him ready made.

"As for you, Mr. —, if I am not mistaken, your terms are inadmissible. Let me examine my tariff, or book of rates, which contains the price current of all the honesty and patriotism in the kingdom.

(Turns over the leaves alphabetically.)

"Oh, this man will never do! A place at the treasury board, and two cousins to be made, the one a commissioner of the customs, the other a lord of trade and plantations! s'death! He comes too dear. It will cost the treasury less to keep him out. Orders to my borough-managers accordingly.

"Oh! are you there Sir Simon? You are perfectly safe: This fellow is not a degree removed from an idiot. All the better; he will be the more pliable, or at least the less greasing will serve. For though this wretch, this fool of fortune has an immense estate, he thinks he has a right not to give us his vote and interest for nothing. Well! well! no matter, a feather, a ribbon, a cockade in the militia will bind him ours. He shall have it. Mark him with a broad *M* for ministerial.

"Lord Faddle! he too is ours, or indeed any body's that is not ashamed

“ ashamed of buying so bad a
 “ bargain. This fly, bred from
 “ the putrefaction of the times,
 “ was a little troublesome at first ;
 “ but has made amends since his
 “ being allowed to perch on the
 “ state-wheel, and has taken a
 “ solemn oath (which there is no
 “ fear of his violating) of Passive-
 “ obedience and Non-resistance
 “ to every ministry that will not
 “ take his place from him. He
 “ is what may be called a *ministe-*
 “ *rial Tory*. The *M* therefore
 “ for him.

“ Good lack ! pretty Mr.
 “ Fidget ! This is one of the
 “ court sticking-plasters. He
 “ must stand, because there is no
 “ getting rid of him. Who could
 “ find in his heart to refuse the
 “ door to such a soft, supple, ob-
 “ sequious thing, *who never once*
 “ *offends* ? So dove-like, so in-
 “ nocent withal, that he has all
 “ the airs of one that might, oc-
 “ casionally, with great decency
 “ and propriety hand a chamber-
 “ utensil to the maids of honour.
 “ However, *it* is a dead vote for
 “ any court : so let *it* pass.

“ What art thou too on the
 “ ranks, tremendous *Whiffler* ?—
 “ Shall he stand or not ? *Ay, that’s*
 “ *the question*. Prevent his get-
 “ ting a seat, I am afraid I can-
 “ not. There is a family-en-
 “ gagement in the way. I have
 “ offered the fellow for relinquish-
 “ ing his chance of coming in, a
 “ commission and a couple of
 “ thousand pounds, which is all
 “ the money more than he is
 “ worth for any good he can ever
 “ do. But then he has a natural
 “ turbulence of temper, and an
 “ eternal bluster in his tongue,
 “ that will gall our court-party.

“ He would not, however, bite
 “ at my offer. Determined to be
 “ a rank adventurer in politics,
 “ of which he knows as little as I
 “ do, he has taken it into his
 “ head, that he will be able to
 “ get more by his campaigns in
 “ the house than in the field.
 “ And, faith, I believe him. He
 “ has that kind of sonorous ban-
 “ ter, and words without ideas,
 “ which suit the nonsense of the
 “ times. Besides, as he has not a
 “ grain of principle, he is sure of
 “ succeeding. It is the imposture,
 “ not the reality of patriotism
 “ that now goes down with the
 “ commonalty. They love the
 “ word, but detest the thing. The
 “ very people that would make
 “ an idol of the man that should
 “ attempt, in virtue of a few un-
 “ meaning sounds to fool their
 “ credulity, would with the most
 “ serene indifference see a Ham-
 “ den, or a Sidney, lay their heads
 “ down on the block, for the li-
 “ berties and political salvation
 “ of this country.—Be it so then ;
 “ I must take the chance of occa-
 “ sionally buying Whiffler off ;
 “ and, if I read him right, bought
 “ he is to be, though but for a
 “ time ; since no ties, no obliga-
 “ tions, are likely to fix that eter-
 “ nal weather-cock.”

In this manner, or much in
 this manner, you may paint to
 yourself one of these veteran
 leaders of the bands of corruption,
 absorbed in the noble employ of
 scanning the merits of candidates,
 in order for packing a parliament,
 not to serve, but to betray the
 real interests of his country, un-
 mercifully reprobating abilities,
 talents, integrity, all kind of real
 merit ; in short, favourable only

to venality, to insignificance, idiotism, pliancy, and worthlessness. And this disposition of things, these drivellers took to be the sublime of all policy, the very quintessence of government; and thus it was, that they formed times after their own hearts, times of which we are at this moment feeling the fatal influence, by their easily traceable connexions with the discontents of the present ones. Thus it was, that the fate of this great nation was by a kind of most slavishly unroyal compact, put into the most worthless and the most polluted hands. The permanent interests of the people were sacrificed to private avarice, to weakness, to vanity, and to the blind madness of the moment. Literature, genius, useful knowledge, sound policy, were all dragged down in the dirt, or languished in obscurity. Every thing was resolved into parliamentary interest. The ministers and depositaries of the royal authority, were either incapable of distinguishing merit, or where they were forced to see it, took umbrage at it, and detested it the more for its not being in their power to despise it, and for their being sensible, that they could not but be themselves despised by those who had the solid superiority of such an advantage over them. All real patriotism being a reproach to them, was attempted to be ridiculed by them; it is easy to conceive with how good a grace.

In the mean while, the public affairs, and even the national spirit, could not but suffer by such a state of things. Every thing languished; every nerve of government was relaxed. The political

body, in short, had all the air of a corpse in putrefaction

Whosoever considers the channel in which things have long run, will readily allow, that there is no affected acrimony, no caricature in this representation of them; collaterally, however, to which it is requisite to remind the reader of one attack which the Mock-whigs had to sustain from the Tories; because the consequences of that circumstance continuing to this instant, have greatly contributed to revive the exploded distinction of those party-appellations; without which revival, the mention of them would be little better than offering to the public old almanacks.

Ever since the time that from the accession of the late king to the throne, the Whig ministers, as they were most falsely called, continued their hold of power, by their hank on his ruling and extremely silly passion, of getting money from Britain to throw it away upon his German measures, which were beyond all conception absurd and ruinous, while all the counsels that humoured this nonsense, were rank treason against this country; those ministers, I say, were not contented with subjecting only their king to their arbitrary direction, and with fleecing the nation in his name, without measure or mercy, but they extended their indignities to prince Frederic, the heir-apparent, whom they treated with the utmost neglect, contempt, and insolence. This was the more insupportable to that prince from *them*, for that independently of his natural claim from his birth and rank, to some share in his father's counsels, and

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in the affairs of state, there was in those ideots who had usurped the lead of things, solely on the strength of a system of corruption for which they deserv'd the highest resentment of their country, nothing to be discovered that could justify the confidence of either his father or of the nation. Their abilities, their talents, were manifestly much beneath mediocrity; and as to principles, they were never suspected of any.

Be it here parenthetically observed, that it was not long afterwards that they extended their injurious usage to the duke of Cumberland, who gave them no other provocation for it, than his having procured to this country a solemn dispensation from our interfering with the continent; in his operations on which, for the preservation of his father's dominions, he was so cruelly deserted by them; cruelly, I say, considering the horrid and inconsistent part they afterwards took; a dispensation for which, a statue to him of solid gold ought not to have been thought too much, by a grateful and considerate nation.

But to return to prince Frederic, nothing could then be more natural, nor more consequential, than for him to resent injuries, at once not only personal to himself, and to a father held in so scandalous a subjection by such a set of men, but destructive to a nation, the welfare of which could not but be dear to him, and of whose greatest interest and honour they were palpably making a dreadful havock. Under so many provocations and excitals, that really well-intentioned Prince thought it even his duty to op-

pose a junto who were actually reducing himself to a mere cypher in the state, and using his father yet worse, in governing him by counsels against the nation, against even Hanover; counsels which being calculated to no purpose, nor answering any end, but that of nursing the most pernicious and the most false of all systems, could only be supported by a corruption worthy of them, and ought to have made the authors die with shame, if of shame they had been susceptible, for daring to authorise their iniquities with so respectable a name as that of Whigs; while nothing is more certain, nor indeed more notorious, than that the clear spirit of the real *Whigs*; sternly spurns even the idea of corruption, as being one of the worst ways of attacking their darling and justly sacred LIBERTY.

However, prince Frederic in this his laudable view of asserting his own dignity, of rescuing his father out of such infamous hands, and especially of replacing the British system on truly British foundations, soon found what it was very natural for him to expect, that he and the few impartialists whom so good a cause could attach to him, in a country where corruption was become so universally predominant, were hardly a sufficient match against an administration authorised by his king and father, into whom it was not very difficult for them to instil a jealousy on the first alarm given them by the prince's declaration against them. They had for effectuating their insinuation, nothing more to do than to represent his designs as tending not only to lessen his authority, but to defeat those

those schemes of his which were the cause of their tenure of power, which he had passionately at heart, and which could not have been too soon, and too effectually frustrated and exploded.

In this situation of things it was, that the Tories entered in at the breach between father and son into the Prince's court. The generality of the party known by that name, long sick of that execrable nonsense and treasonable folly of an attachment to a family excluded from the throne with all the sanction of the laws, and especially with all the recommendation of common-sense, were glad of an occasion of offering their service to the undoubted heir of the house of Hanover; a house, to which it was in fact impossible to show greater loyalty and more cordial affection, than by delivering the reigning head of it from the despotism of a ministry unmercifully exercised over him at the expence of a corrupted and sacrificed country.

This tender of service must have been the more acceptable to that prince for many reasons, besides its favouring his present views. It could not but be pleasing to him, that a party which had been reckoned enemies to his family, were, in contempt of their old and reputed prejudices, giving to him, the presumptive heir of it, pledges of their future loyalty and good will, without any the least reasonable cause of suspicion, as by their birth, their rank, their quality of gentlemen, they might be presumed above so infamous and so base a duplicity, as that of seizing such an opportunity only to betray a prince, who was nobly trusting them. And

to what purpose betray him? To favour a Jacobite cause, proscribed by the justest of all laws; and the success of which could only involve the whole nation, themselves in course included, in universal slavery and perdition?

The prince then cordially embraced their offers of service, with a sincerity the more meritorious in him, for its being so rare among princes, and with a gratitude which is still more rare, since he ever after continued to give them credit even for the services they did not do him, but which they meant to do him. The truth is, that he saw in those Tory converts some principle, some sensibility to honour; whereas, among the mock-whigs, even so much as the pretension to either, were out of the question, and exploded with ridicule. The flag of defiance to all patriotism was openly hoisted in their camp of corruption.

Yet surely nothing was ever so contemptible, and so absurd as the conduct of the ministers of that kidney on this occasion; but in those portentous times, it was only the more successful for being so.

Let us examine some particulars of it.

First, On the alarm given of the Tories getting into Leicester-house, the mock-whigs played off with amazing success the old stale and base trick of availing themselves of the popular prejudice: they had even so thorough a contempt of the understanding of the people, as to suppose them capable of swallowing such a monstrous fiction, as that the heir-apparent of the reigning house of Hanover was joining the Jacobites, in favour of the proscribed house of

Stuart;

Stuart; and, what is more, found ideots to believe them. The proof they offered of this accusation was not so much impudent, as it was impudence itself, in their making it a criterion of loyalty to the actual king, the passive acquiescence in his being manifestly ridden and constantly insulted by them, the pretended Whigs, who boasted of having placed him upon the throne. A circumstance, which had it even been the truth, was, considering the use they were themselves making of it, by reigning in his name, and especially tyrannizing over himself, rather a gross injury, than a benefit with which they had any right to upbraid him. He might much more justly have employed the apostrophe to them, that Sixtus V. did to the Cardinal Colonna, who was reproaching him, on his refusal to be led by the nose by him, with his being indebted to him for the papal crown: Well, sir, if "you made me pope, suffer me "to be pope."

And yet this very system of enslavement of king and people to ministerial drivellers, has been urged, and continues at this very moment to be urged, with equal modesty and truth, as the preferable and only system favourable to the liberty and welfare of both king and people; and that any departure from it in the king was a direct attack on the constitution, and an alarm sufficient for the subjects to stand to their arms, and defend this chaste Diana of theirs, first set up for worship by her priests the mock-whigs, with all their hierarchy of ministers.

It was then against these deceivers of the people, against these

tyrants over his father, that prince Frederic directed his opposition. He has been *accused*, yes, *accused*, of having wished to replace the state on the broad basis of abilities and good intentions to the nation, in scorn and contempt of the little narrow dirty channels of party, and especially of that corruption which his adversaries had set up as the *sine-quo-non* engine of government. This *accusation* was no calumny, it is historical truth. This was his true, his noble design, to have not a *ministerial* parliament, but a *parliamentary* ministry (which rather makes a difference) a ministry agreeable to, and approved by an unpacked, independent, and uncorrupt parliament. It was purely in this public spirit, that he availed himself of the assistance of the Tories, who, by the bye, were no longer any more what is understood by the obnoxious appellation of Tories, than their adversaries were what is understood by the respectable term of Whigs.

This situation however of parties, habitually constituted what might be called a civil war, though a bloodless one; a dry war, carried on with words, with invectives, with cabals, and especially with great effusions of nonsense on both sides; for not to be partial to either, it was hardly possible to be worse seconded than prince Frederic was, by the political forces of Leicester-house. He had not a man about him, whether of the reputed Tories, or of the pure and simple courtiers, that had a head above the standard of mediocrity; most of them were lamentably and infinitely beneath it. True it is, that the futility of the

ministry of St. James's was not a jot less; but then they had on their side the superiority of numbers, the advantage of possession of power, and the name of the sovereign. It was then absolutely a civil war of triflers imbattled against triflers, in which the majority, and the worst cause, as usual, ultimately prevailed, but not till after various bickerings and successes, much beneath the dignity of history, beneath even the remembrance of such egregious trash.

Prince Frederic unhappily dying, an inviolable tenderness for his memory, and a passion for signalizing an attachment to whatever had appeared to be his will and pleasure, engaged the Princess Dowager to continue that constant regard for the Tories, which she had observed in her husband. Politically speaking, she perhaps carried this partiality too far. For you have undoubtedly in that kind of inherited predilection of hers, though founded on so virtuous, so amiable a motive, the principal source of all the execrable calumnies, of all the brutal cowardly outrages, which have since been showered upon her, with more than savage barbarity, in the insulting a helpless woman, a stranger, consequently the more under the national protection and the mother of a king, who, without the shadow of a provocation, has been stabbed to the heart through her side. A king to whom, to complete the joke, it has been imputed as a crime, and even as black ingratitude to the Whigs, for their giving to his family that precious crown, which has been made so comfortable to him, his majesty's

not receiving thankfully on his bended knees the daggers they were planting in his heart, with the aggravating mockery of professions of loyalty and submission, at the same instant that they were directly accusing him of a misprision of treason, in suffering his servants to plan the enslavement of the nation, and the robbing his subjects of their most sacred privileges: with what truth, let those determine who will but on their own knowledge reflect on what he himself must have suffered; a prince, surely, less oppressing than oppressed, "*more sinned against than sinning.*"

Among other reports, it has been propagated, that his education had taken too much of the tincture of Tory principles, from the predominance of certain personages at that court, who were suspected of retaining some of the old leaven of that party. It may be so. But certainly, if a tenderness for despotism may be reckoned among their principles, one of the first acts of his majesty's government in his increasing the independence of the judges on his will and pleasure, is not among the symptoms of his being infected with so foul a madness. If, again, one of the characteristics of the Tories, be a taint of Jacobitism, a leaning towards the house of Stuart, it must have been rather unconfidential and injudicious in them (of being both which they are however very capable) to have given to his majesty the earliest and strongest impressions of such a manifest indifference and unconcern for his electoral dominions, as was the most likely to fix the house of Hanover for ever on the throne

throne of Great Britain, as well as to endear him, especially to the hearts of his subjects, neither as an English, nor as a Scotch, nor as an Irish king, but as a truly British king, the common father of a great and undivided people, without any such mean, illiberal, local distinctions, as by paying a stupidly treacherous court to any one part, only tend to weaken the whole.

Nor should it escape observation, that the cultivating this just, this political preference of Britain, his place of nativity, over Hanover, to which he has a so much less natural tie, is, in fact, laying the axe to the root of corruption, by removing that capital cause of it, which in the late reign produced so many follies and so many evils, and which there are still numbers who do not blush to regret, not only because corruption being their element, like that of other vermin, they cannot well live out of it; but, because they look upon an attempt to free the court from any necessity of it, as an injury to the privileges of the people, whom they allow to detest it in theory, while they wish them practically to adore it.

It is pleasant enough, however, to hear the party, or the successors of that party, who first gave being and stability to the system of corruption, in a fine patriot tone, fling the reproach of *corrupt* at the head of a parliament, who at the very worst could not be more corrupt, nor the cause of more corruption than they themselves had notoriously been.

To judge however of the culture of the plant by those fruits just mentioned, our sovereign's

education must not only have escaped the taint of Tory principles, but have received very salutary impressions. I wish I could with truth add, that another advice attributed to his counsellors, had been as punctually followed in the practice, as it was admired in the theory: it was this, that without any respect of party, the ministers, or servants of the state, should be chosen from among such as were evidently possessed of the greatest talents and abilities to serve their country. Instead of adhering to which, the Cocoa-tree appeared to have been swept, for the very refuse of the Tory-party; and so many obnoxious personages were taken into place and favour, as gave a foul Tory-complexion to the court and ministry; a circumstance highly absurd and impolitical, and which could not fail of not only alarming the jealousy of the *mock-whigs*; who, notwithstanding the scorn and contempt due to them, retained still influence enough to do mischief; but, what was much worse, of giving disgust to the *real Whigs*, for whom it is impossible to have too high a respect, their principles being infinitely above either court-servility, or factious ferment. They are the true and only nationalists, for patriotism is never party.

As this was really a great solecism in the court, and that the personages so chosen had nothing in them of talents or abilities to atone for the injudiciousness of the choice of them, considered in the light of party-prejudice; while there might have been found numbers of known clear spirited unexceptionable subjects, the reception of whom into place and confidence

dence could not have been so glaringly contradictory to the court professions of a desire to abolish party-distinctions; I here mention it from that perfect spirit of candour, that would not suffer me to suppress a truth against one party more than against the other.

But then to make this false step, which was manifestly owing to an excess of filial regard to his father's friends, a handle for accusing the sovereign himself, the actual head of the house of Hanover, of being, through rank stupidity, for there can be no other way of accounting for it, in a plot with Jacobites to bring in the house of Stuart, to the dethronement of himself and family, is such a strain of abandoned impudence and party-rage, as could not be broached by any who did not take the people to be at least as stupid as such a charge supposes the sovereign to be. To which absurdity, in fact, rather to be spurned with scorn and ridicule, than to be seriously treated, there has been added the horror of joining the king's own mother in the treasonable conspiracy, at once against a nation to which so numerous an issue as her's must have abundantly and exclusively naturalized her affection, and against a son at this moment cruelly abused for an excess of filial reverence to her, as if he had too much sunk the king in the son. I do not ask whether it is possible to invent such execrable nonsense? It is plain it has been invented; but the wonder is, that there could be found either among the lowest of the human race in rank, or in intellects, that could have so credulous a swallow, or among the higher classes of life,

men so degenerate, so ignoble, so lost to all sensibility of honour, or of respect to their own birth, or but of common humanity, that for the sake of deriving a miserable momentary advantage to their party, from such an impression on a deceived populace, could foment or connive at it; or even stand by with unconcern, if not with the smirk of secret pleasure, and see the king and his mother treated in his own capital with such cruelty, such brutal indignities, as any foreign prince, his most mortal enemy, and at actual war with him, would from a principle of humanity, hold it a dishonour to himself to suffer in his dominions.

I am not here playing the Quixote of the virtue of any prince or princess on earth. It has hardly possible to have a meaner opinion of courts, and the heads of them in general, than I have; but I would have justice done to every one, to kings, if but as men, not as kings; nay, I would wish it done even to ministers, or any other malefactors. If ministers are to be hunted down, give them at least law; do not deliver them up to be worried by the mob: but especially spare the honour of their families; and, above all, that of a family which is not a private one; a family in which the constitution having centered the representation of the national dignity, every nobleman, every commoner of Britain, might well think his own honour personally wounded and insulted: every true gentleman, in short, would reject with scorn the idea of the mother of his greatest enemy being treated on his account, even if he believed the calumny to be no calumny,

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as the mother of our unfortunate king has been, who has so little deserved it of any of his subjects.

It has been urged with all the inveteracy, and especially with all the absurdity and blindness of party-rage, that the scandalous charge on the mother of our sovereign, had not the matter of fact itself for its object, which detachedly considered, could not be the concern of the public; but that the *secret influence*, which was supposed the consequence of it, so far as it perniciously affected the public measures, was justly matter of animadversion.

Those who resort to this plea, never stand to consider the baseness, the injustice to their own cause, in their recourse to a problematic question of calumny, in order to establish their complaint of bad measures, instead of beginning with at once specifying and attacking those measures with fair arms, and with all the energy and all the powers of the constitution. Impeach the authors of them without mercy. The nation is not, as yet, enslaved enough to stand upon ceremony with treason or with traitors. No degree, no eminence of birth or rank ought to protect them. But do not debase so great, so noble a point, as the public cause, with vile private scandal. It was suggested, that corruption and treason had been employed in making the last peace. Will any one say, that the parliament however *corrupt*, however *unduly influenced*, did, in favour of the delinquents, how high in blood, how powerful in rank, how opulent in fortune soever, brow-beat or discourage any light that could be given in so black a charge?

Did they not even invite it? Was there any attempt to smother the truth?

Surely this great, this generous, this equitable people, would not wish to any one the loss of life, or of what is dearer than life, of character, upon merely an accusation without proof.

Was the peace a bad one? The discussion of that point being no object of these sheets, it is here only in point to observe, that whoever thought it a bad one, had an undoubted right, in the true spirit of freedom, to assert and maintain that opinion. But then it is also a truth, that such as were of a contrary way of thinking, had an equal title to defend their judgment, without incurring so base, so villainous a charge as that of not being as true to their country, as those who they most imagined it wronged by that peace. Dissensions on public points are not only incident to a free state, but perfectly laudable; they are of the very essence of liberty; but then such dissensions should not degenerate into factions, nor be malignantly fomented and encouraged purely to serve party-turns, to distract the nation, and to distress its sovereign. When the peace was constitutionally agitated, many worthy patriots were for continuing the war, and gave their reasons for it. Many, at least equally well disposed to this country, were against that continuation, and offered theirs. Both could not prevail; and if the loss of a point on the side upon a majority, is to be for ever gratuitously imputed to nothing but corruption or court-influence; it is plain, that there can be no law,

no act of parliament, that may not be invalidated, or rendered odious by such a charge. Might it not be, at least as warrantably averred, that where there has been one person, that from motives of real patriotism attacked the peace, there have been thousands that made a party-shibboleth of calling it by hard names, who did not in their hearts care five farthings for their country, and would, to humour their own passions and false interests, set the four quarters of it on fire, and madly rejoice at the general conflagration, though as likely as any to be the first to perish in it?

It is however but candid to add, that many who implicitly approved the peace, as well as many who magisterially declaimed against it, had neither of them, towards a due formation of their respective judgments, any more knowledge of the state of this nation, than of that of Japan, of Asiatic Tartary, or of the mighty empire of Macoco in the center of Africa. Judgments, or rather prejudices, which both parties would nevertheless be sure to defend with the greater obstinacy for their greater ignorance.

But surely never did the want of candour, of justice, of common humanity, appear more flagrantly than in treating on this occasion, the king's mother as a woman, who being herself under the direction of an adulterous paramour, perniciously exerts her own prevalence, in making no better returns for her son's filial love and reverence to her, than to instil into him counsels dishonourable to himself, and treasonable to this nation.

Such has been the charge brought by the virulence of faction, and adopted by the blind credulity of the multitude, to whom the *secret influence* of Carlton-house, the *secret influence* of the king's mother, has been emphatically sounded under the most odious, the most scandalous, and the most improbable circumstances.

Nothing is however more easy, than an answer to this horrid accusation; an answer, that cannot fail of being satisfactory to every one that dares make use of his own knowledge, or his own discernment, to which the appeal is fairly made, in scorn of the roar and madness of party-prejudices. As to such as can use themselves so ill as to renounce their own sense, their own judgment, and with the sacred sound of liberty eternally in their mouths, and never in their hearts, prefer an enslavement to party-rancor, they are out of the question, nor can ever esteem it injurious to them, to be held hardened against conviction, who sinking beneath themselves, while renouncing their own dignity of reasonable creatures, and their own greatest interests in the truth, they obstinately adhere to falsities, which it is in their own power to discover to themselves without any obligation to any one but to themselves. Such are rather to be pitied than blamed. They are slaves without knowing it; slaves to their prejudices, to their passions, and their ignorance. Incapable of that exertion of intellectual freedom which would lead them to examine those foundations and real motives of their belief, which to them constitute *their own secret influence*; they take

take their own opinion, or what is worse yet, their borrowed opinion for the standard of truth, and not truth itself for the standard of their opinion.

Peace be with them! As for those not so infatuated as to be incapable of reason, freely leaving it to them to give what weight, what credit they please, to the black and base scandal of a mother of nine children's weakness for a father of twelve, a man rather uxorious, naturally austere, and who of all the men on earth, appears to have had the least turn for gallantry, leaving, I say, that point to every one's private judgment, as his candour or his partiality, his human feelings, or his brutal insensibility may direct him; let the consequences charged to have arisen from that fact *supposed* true, undergo the severest examination, and the result must be, that it is to be rather feared for the sake of the public good, that the charge of that *secret influence* is not true.

For let it be granted, for argument sake, that the king's mother, through weakness, or through want of better judgment, did actually give to her son *bad counsel*; not the malice of hell itself can fix on her the possibility of her having given worse counsel, or so execrably bad, as those which have been notoriously given, (and some of them unhappily followed) given I say, not by the king's mother, nor by the favourite, through her, of the king, but the favourites of the mob, and by such as have at least been indured, if not applauded by the mob, and by personages who, not having their excuse for prejudices and ignorance, were infinitely beneath the mob.

First, Did the king's mother (for example) ever give to her son advice of so dishonourable a nature, as that which was given to the late king of breaking the convention of Closter-Seven, which relieved in so great a measure the neck of Britain from the Hanover millstone, that millstone so infamously hung on again, and which afterwards became the cork-jacket, the swimming-girdle to France, without which she must have sunk to the bottom, without which too there would have been no necessity for precipitating that peace, which the very man who had created that necessity, and who had himself agreed to incomparably worse terms, had the consummate effrontery to aim at decrying?

Secondly, Was it the king's mother that, in preference to our ancient natural ally, the house of Austria, so impolitically alienated from us, and thrown into the arms of France, connected us with that pious, religious, and especially disinterested prince his Prussian majesty?

Thirdly, Was it the king's mother that by unnecessarily embarking the nation in two wars at once, the one of which could not but reduce to nothing the successes in the other, flung such an immense sum of British treasure, and so much precious British blood down the German drain, and this so treacherously too, after having acquired the national confidence, precisely by protesting and disclaiming against the horrors of such a false policy?

Fourthly, Was it the king's mother that towards raising the millions, ruinously squandered away on that execrable continental system,

system, projected and effectuated, among other intolerable taxes, that cruel discouragement to the industry of the lower classes, the additional tax on the porter? And when it was, after the peace, agitated to give the people some ease, some relief from the circumstances of the war, was it that wicked woman the princess of Wales that, instead of an assistance for lightening especially the heavy burthens on the poor and industrious, the taxation on porter, or on the articles of the first necessity in life, preferred an indirect, remoter alleviation by lessening the land-tax, which was more immediately felt by the richer and higher classes, whose expensive dissipations and tasteless luxury did not seem to recommend either humanely or politically that preference?

Fifthly, Was it the king's mother that in a council of state durst insult the majesty of the British people, with a proposal only fit to be made in the divan of Algiers, or of some nest of the pirates of Barbary; the proposal of an expedition for the seizure, at Cadiz, of the Spanish galleons; (who, by the by, had little or nothing on board of the public treasure) while a great part of the private, which was not very considerable, was British property; and this on the pretext of a presumed *partial* disposition of the Spaniards, which was certainly nothing new; and ought to have provoked a declaration long before, if we had been less embarrassed with that accursed German-war? This disposition, in short, of theirs, had been long so perfectly well known that notwithstanding all the migh-

ty parade about the family-compact, as if the discovery had been owing to some superhuman sagacity, a true statesman would not have given for an authentic copy of the very compact itself, the value of the paper, ink, and sealing-wax, employed on it.

Sixthly, Was it the king's mother that advised that crude, unprepared, mis-timed, and ill-concerted, though certainly not ill-intended measure, the Stamp-act?

Seventhly, When the repeal of the Stamp-act was in agitation, upon the most judicious, and most honourable, the most conciliatory footing imaginable; having been seized as a handle, by the ministry of that time, for a proof to the colonies that the parliament considered the American Britons as identical with the European Britons, and was accordingly willing to gratify the people on that side of the water, as people on this had occasionally been by the rescission or desistance from certain acts, purely on the discovery that they were too unpopular or disagreeable to the community: was it the king's mother, that, at this critical juncture stepped in, and with a wretched, florid, fustian speech, gave another turn to the whole, and balked all the proposed good, by defending that tenet of *non-representation*, which well-considered is so dishonourable, so detrimental, and so treasonable both to the mother-country, and to its children, the colonies, out of whose breast she had so recently plucked a thorn at the expence of her own blood and treasure? Is the princess-dowager then the personage that modestly assumed the glory of successes,

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successes, which she had only poisoned, and never had any the least share of merit in obtaining, unless such orders, which were happily never obeyed, could obtain them; as for their language, tenor, or purport, were demonstrably fit rather for emanations from a cell in Bedlam, than from the closet of a minister? Was this princess, I say, the genius that first robbed the nation of her natural allies on one continent, and next of her natural-born subjects on another; and is now so consistently seeking to terminate so vile a career with robbing her of her own self, of her own subjects on this island itself?

Eighthly, Was it this horrid treasonable mother that insulted our sovereign for declaring himself a *British* king, instead of preferring a partial title of either *English* or *Scotch*? Was it the princess dowager that advised him to *strengthen* this country by bringing on a breach of the Union on the pretext of the grossest calumny that ever was attempted to be passed on the public, not a man in which but has the power, on his own knowledge, to give it the *LIE*; if he will but examine that *golden book*, the Court-Kalendar; where he may satisfy himself by a comparison of times at his own choice, of the total falsity of any undue partiality having been ever shewn to the North over the South-Britons? Was it her wise and especially national counsel, first to cut off the colonies, which are such considerable branches, and then to disable the body itself by inducing an *hemiplegia*, or dead palsy on one side, by rendering Scotland occasionally as dead to any concern for us as our unprovoked, ungrateful treatment of her

deserves, after her royal and affectionate procedure to us in the two last wars, the civil and the foreign? Or was the innocence of this princess in that point owing to nothing but to her criminal correspondences with her lovely *SCOTCH* paramour, who repaid her fondness with a plot to bring in his namesake, the Pretender, who would, to be sure, be much *kinder* to him, than her *son* of whose affection she was accused of disposing at her will?

Is it then by the swallow of such egregious absurdities of such miserable ribaldry that a multitude could be so infatuated as to dictate to their insulted sovereign a new commandment, "*Thou shalt not honour thy mother, that thy reign may be long over the land which thy LORDS the Mock-Whigs gave to thee.*"

But suppose even that this pious commandment were to be dutifully obeyed by his majesty against his firm belief, that his mother was neither a ——— nor a traitress; would the mob esteem him the more for his thus doing their will and pleasure? Would they stop here? Might not their next accusation of him be that he, listened too much to his wife? Especially if they patriotically imagined that it would *gall* him.

Oh *Englishmen! Englishmen!* so let me address you, since you disdain the name of *Britons*, and take it for an affront, though surely both names are highly honourable, and the last especially sacred to the times of Liberty, when it was the general appellation of this great island, before its enslavement to the Cæsars; if ever the abatement or cessation of your delirium restores you to the free use of your better sense, and renders you capable of that heroic effort, so worthy

thy of your good intentions, the courage to confess to yourselves an error, you will blush to think into what excesses you have been betrayed, into what false fears and jealousies you have been seduced by men, who, while making you the tools of their private passions of rancor, ambition, vanity, and self-interest, were laughing in their sleeve at your credulity, and at the distress and *anguish of soul*, into which it has so delightfully enabled them to throw your unfortunate and much-injured king; and at the scarce not irreparable mischief they have done to their country, and consequently to yourselves, who are so great a part of it.

Nothing is, however, more just than to confess that those outrages, those indignities which you have been seduced to commit, are not your crime: no; it is purely that of your seducers.

The fact is undoubtedly true, even though taken from a declamation, that "they greatly err, "who look upon any mischief in "society as a *public guilt*. What- "soever a people or a nation do "amiss, it is always imputable "to the prevalence of some who "impose upon them. They are "never stirred up to hatred or to "rage but according as they are "exasperated by designing persons *."

To which may be added, God forgive the incendiaries!

In the mean while it must be unaffectedly painful to any mind susceptible of humanity, or of concern for his country, to mark the

power of contagion in an epidemic frenzy of party-rage: to observe that men even of the best principles, men of undoubted worth, nor, in other respects, deficient in judgment or talents, could be unaccountably hurried away with the shallow current, and betrayed into the same prejudices, the same deceptions, by mere senseless sounds, and phantoms of designs against the notional liberty, (that eternal bait to catch weak minds,) as the lowest of the mob, many of whom are often as unconscious as insensible of the mischief they are seduced to commit as is the firebrand in the hands of a malicious incendiary; while some even imagine themselves obeying the voice of God, for which they mistake their own roar of some senseless party-word given out to them by their leaders, and yet in support of which some would even triumph in suffering. Faction has its fanatics as well as superstition.

Unfortunately for this distracted country there have, at all times, existed in it characters, which, for the honour of humanity, cannot be too rare: characters constitutionally enemies to the public tranquility; of whom mischief is the element; and the power to create it, their triumph. Families divided, the public order overturned, the laws robbed of their vigour, authority trampled upon, and all the ties of union among fellow-subjects and countrymen loosened and broke, affords the most delightful of landscapes to them: especially if they have to boast of its being, in a great mea-

* See Quintilian, Orat. XI.

sure, their own work. Incapable of remorse and mischief-mad, their whole joy is to give pain; and their most exquisite sensation of pleasure, that of hurting and galling others; and, above all, such as never offended them, and who are more worthy of love than of hatred: but *that*, that is their crime to these monsters of perversity, to whom innocence is but a provocation the more. It becomes the darling sport of their unaccountable malignity, the endeavouring with a rancorous insistence, to tire out, and drive the most patient and most moderate, whom they have made the objects of their inhuman rage, to any extremes, of which they may take a base advantage to fasten upon them some colour of wrong, that may serve to justify their inveteracy, by a yet greater injustice; that of imputing, as crimes, those very measures which they themselves had forced, and for which they had forlaid: ever the more furious in their aversions for their total causelessness. Happy if they can but succeed (which to the reproach of human kind they too often do), in blackening by the grossest and absurdest calumnies, in rendering odious, or ridiculous, persons who could not be too much respected, and in disfiguring them by caricatures or exaggerations of any defects they might have, or of any errors into which they might have fallen, as what human character is perfect enough to boast a total exemption from them? But when, fatally for the welfare and repose of this country, the situation of things co-incides with the infernal disposition of such characters; when there happens to exist real griev-

ances, real oppressions, (though demonstrably owing to much remoter causes,) which fall hard indeed upon the most industrious and the most valuable classes in the lower ranks of life, who in the bitterness of their present feelings, do not stand to examine the passed and distant causes of their actual sufferings, but take the readiest, the objects that are maliciously and falsely pointed out to them by impostors who perfectly know them to be innocent; when to this is added, the almost incredible circumstance of there being such things as men of rank, of birth, of fortune, and of influence, infamously mean enough, for the sake of some private interest or passion, to avail themselves of a public error, as if they knew or believed it to be a truth, and to aim at perpetuating the delusion instead of attempting nobly to undeceive an honest well-meaning multitude, even though the undeception should be unfavourable to their own selfish points: (an effort, of which no one that knows them will ever suspect them of being capable;) such co-incidences, I say, make the game of mischief and disturbance full easy to those miscreants who delight in nothing else; and by whom the restoration of the national peace, harmony, and union, would be considered, as in fact it would be, as an utter annihilation. They would instantly shrink into that native obscurity of theirs, from which it is never but to the detriment of their country, and to their own shame, that they emerge into that baneful glare of light, and conspicuity, of which they are so confoundedly vain. Worse yet: they

they would lose the only joy of their precious lives; the power of doing mischief to their king and to their country.

And, after all, common justice, and especially the old English good-nature would repine at the cruel torments inflicted on a sovereign who has so little deserved them. But this is not the worst: the people themselves obstinately court their own perdition; they do not enough consider the power of opinion to destroy empires, as well as to raise them. They are not enough on their guard against the dishonour and the danger of a general impression, especially when manifestly a false one.

Blinded by prejudice, they do not or will not see that they are obstacles to their own clearest welfare; since it is impossible that any material good should be thought of, or done, while faction rages in the bowels of a country; they do not see that they are giving openings for their own destruction, by foreign enemies, too alert not to avail themselves of the advantage offered to them by our domestic disunion.

Where is the remedy? In compulsion, in force? That is impossible. The public opinion delivered up to all the rage of prejudice, and to all the malignancy of party, might frustrate any attempts of that kind, however authorised by the best intentions, and even by the laws and the constitution itself; because, wherever an opinion is become a public error, or stands adopted by considerable numbers, it either disposes of the public force, which itself, in fact forms, or can never be subdued

by violence, without inflicting such wounds as would be less likely to cure than exasperate the disease, and to render it mortal to the state. In such a case then, temporising is a virtue, and the policy of it, not timid but prudent. In a free and sensible nation, an error left to its own unchecked course, cannot long maintain its prevalence against the power of evidence, and the authority of reason, where the blindness of the passions is not made more obstinate by some violence or by some injudicious asperity.

But if, in despite of every invitation from the dearest interests, and the most sacred duties, to a return to reason, the feuds and discords increase, if envy, uncharitableness, party-rage, and imaginary evils, render the nation insensible to the *real* dangers that threaten it from all quarters; if at the bottom, the general good sense, honour, and love of country, exist no longer in it, it is no matter how soon its ruin comes on, how soon the wishes are gratified of those worthies who are so nobly employed in impelling it down the precipice.

Instead of which execrable catastrophe, how exquisite a joy would the prospect afford to a Briton of a calm returning after so cruel a storm! Happily the contributing a share to this desirable revolution of things is in the power of even those who have been the most forward in creating and promoting the disturbance of the public tranquillity: and surely an endeavour to restore it, is not a reparation to their country and to themselves, at which they ought to repine. And towards it, what have they to do, but resolutely to renounce

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falsities, at once pernicious and dishonourable to themselves, and of which they do not believe a syllable themselves, and to change their pretended patriotism into a real one? The shortest follies are the best. Let the people no longer suffer the interest of the nation, to be considered, suspected, or treated as an interest possible to be separated from that of the sovereign: they are, in fact, identical. Restore the authority of parliament, abolish the unconstitutional despotism of ministerial gangs; and, above all, explode that astonishing impudence of avowing the controul of servants of the state over the sovereign of it, as the only system of liberty and good government, and this on the most impertinent and senseless of all pleas, *their* peculiar responsibility, forsooth! as if any person could be exempt from being responsible for detriment done by him to this country; or that such a responsi-

bility was a title to reign, in fact, while leaving a bare unmeaning name of office to the king, without power or influence.

On the other hand let all favouritism be abolished, as well as the consequence of it in a partial choice of ministers, by a set of little obscure creatures sneaking about the court, and who are so much misnamed *friends* * to the king! Let every nomination to office be but the echo of the voice of the people, undeluded, unbiassed by party or faction, and solely obtained by evident merit. Nor is this quite so Utopian a proposal as the first sound of it may seem to insinuate: for if the sovereign takes but the pains he ought to do, to acquaint himself of the degree of fitness of the subjects recommended by the public, and especially of those agreeable to the parliament, he can hardly commit great mistakes; and, at the worst, it is impossible for him to make on his

* *The word Friends would here be a very improper, and a very indelicate one, unless a just distinction be made between the private and public life of a king.*

In his private life it would be cruel indeed to debar him one of the greatest and most virtuous joys of society, the having friends and confidants; and in truth, it stands him much upon to make such a choice as should not dishonour his taste or discernment. But the public has, strictly speaking, no right to censure such his friends, unless it can be reasonably presumed, that they impertinently meddle with the public affairs, or attempt to influence the nomination of subjects to the highest offices of the state. However, a bare suggestion of this is not to be treated as a proof, otherwise it is in the nature of things, a handle always inevitably ready to be seized by faction, right or wrong. In public life, the king can have no particular persons distinguishable by the name of friends; all his subjects are, or ought to be, not only his friends while he does his duty (and when he does not, such as second, abet, or flatter him in the failure or deviation, are his worst of enemies) but friends to one another, without any odious distinctions of party, or of poor narrow locality; a whole people in short of friends.

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own proper judgment and mere motion, a worse choice than has been at times made for him, either by a favourite, or by those parties which have, on prevailing in their turns, crammed down his throat their respective knots of creatures, dependents, toad-eaters, or cousins to the fourth or fifth degree, not forgetting their precious babes of grace.

For the more open communication, then, let every party-wall between the king and the people be thrown down: let the royal cabinet be as transparent to the public of Great-Britain as her state-secrets ought to be impenetrable to her enemies: let the sovereign, in short, be thoroughly impressed with the persuasion that no throne can ever be so glorious or so firm, as that which is founded on the hearts of his subjects, whose affection will give him a great united people for his family, and nothing less than his whole kingdom for his court!

Such, at least, is the sincere wish of one who is penetrated with the sincerest zeal for the happiness, and implicitly in course for the liberty of this country; in the consciousness of which, I have not so unjust, so disrespectful an opinion of the public, as to apprehend its misconstruction, or not even to anticipate its approbation of my intention, even while some opinions contained in this dissertation may run counter to the general stream: in such case, I appeal from the public to itself; from the violence of its prejudices to the rectitude and generosity of its judgment, from which I have nothing to fear, if I am but read with the same candour and impartiality as I dare aver that I write.

But if any reader, too much used to think as attorneys talk, only on one side of the question, without allowing any weight to reasons on the other; and by thus making himself merely a party, renounces his right of being a judge, which is so much the superior character, even such a reader, unless he finds at the bottom of his own heart, that foulness which induces him to suspect the fair-dealing of every one else, will readily acquiesce in the satisfactoriness of what I have here farther to offer.

I have, in the foregoing pages, been so far from meaning any thing so very black, so very base, and indeed so absurd as any attempt at making my court to a living king at the expence of a dead one; that of this last I have set down nothing that I do not know, or believe; and actually urged much more at large (though in vain, which indeed was no wonder) while he was yet alive.

If I have here, occasionally, treated with an indignation (in which I ought to hope that every worthy, every humane reader would join me,) the horrors of personalities, of private scandal of families, of national reflections, tending to divide, without so much as the shadow of a cause, this kingdom against itself: if I have dared to laugh at the stale joke of mock-patriotism, or to deplore the barbarity of inventing, every moment, new modes of torture, for our clearly well-intentioned sovereign: I have not the more for that aimed at palliating the incapacity, the futility of his ministers, or at justifying the various omissions, and actual blunders of the court since the

the commencement of this reign; the catalogue of which would not be a short one. It was not here the place to enter into an account of the favourite's false, and especially silly measures; such as the cruelly depriving very innocent subjects of their bread, merely on the account of party, or of his own private vanity, or the offence so wantonly and impolitically given to some respectable heads of the Whig-families; with many other follies: as the nauseous task of specifying them makes no part of my present plan, it being merely to point out some of those seeds of our unhappy jars and divisions, which appear to

me more remote than is generally imagined, since they rather precede his majesty's accession.

I have nothing to add but just to mention, that, before these sheets were written, I had not seen a very ingenious and elegant pamphlet, intitled *Thoughts on the Causes of the present Discontents*. In many points I have the honour of agreeing perfectly with the author: in some I with gratitude confess myself indebted to him for instruction; and if in others I totally dissent from him, it is, nevertheless, always with all the respect and deference due to the merit of such superior talents and distinguished abilities.

34 [A 34]

SKETCH of the STATE OF THE ARTS and SCIENCES,

AND OF

POLITE LEARNING.

THOSE who have observed, with a philosophic eye, the gradation of human understanding in different ages, the successive discoveries and improvements of the learned and artists, have not sufficiently investigated the causes of the revolution which has happened in the genius and manners of polish'd nations, ever since the revival of letters in Europe. Greece, enslaved by barbarous conquerors, after having preserved, during eight hundred years, that glorious pre-eminence which her laws, interior policy, military discipline, arts and sciences gave her above other na-

tions, in the last convulsive struggle against despotism and anarchy, lost her reputation and liberty. The scattered remains of her taste and knowledge, are the precious sparks which bring a new light to Italy. The Medicis diffused the first particles of this sacred fire amidst an ignorant and superstitious people whom they had subdued.

These new sovereigns, whose ambition was to excel, in arts and knowledge, such as were their superiors in conquests and dominions, encouraged, by the most distinguished honours and liberalities, a few men of genius to exert their talents

talents and rational faculties, in order to extirpate those errors and prejudices which had been so useful to the superstructure of papal power: Francis I. that valiant, generous, imprudent, and unsuccessful monarch, equally ambitious of the name of a learned and warlike prince, animated his subjects to retrieve, by their genius and invention, their glory impaired by arms.

Charles V. wholly taken up with vast projects, and engaged in frequent wars with various successes; more conspicuous by the arts of policy, than by his love and patronage of learning, was never prompted by the emulation of surpassing his rival in glory, in munificence and honourable distinctions towards men of letters. His ambition was to reign over slaves: the freedom and independence of the Muses were inadmissible according to his system of government. Some artists in the Low Countries gave a renown to that corner of his vast empire; but Spain and Germany still exhibited all the barbarous traces of a feudal domination.

The North was in the dark during this twilight of improvement and erudition. Henry VIII. who thought himself authorised by hereditary right to act as a tyrant, imperious, lustful, magnificent, and vindictive, prostituted his name in a theological controversy against an Augustine monk. His predilection for Hans Holbein proved his taste for painting; but true philosophy, which is the consequence of reason and enquiry, could not propagate its

benign influence in a country where it was reputed a dangerous innovation. His accidental separation from the see of Rome was indeed the dawn of the restoration of the rights of mankind, and of the privilege of making use of their reason: but the unsteadiness of his religious principles, the uncertainty of his belief, his spirit of persecution, his address in interesting religion with his lust, made half of his subjects devotees and hypocrites, and consequently afraid to publish any new opinion.

Elizabeth seated those arts and sciences upon her throne, which her misfortunes had engaged her to cultivate in private life. But the greatest part of her reign was employed in securing, by her policy, a kingdom which she had defended by her victorious arms. All the branches of her administration were supported by able warriors and statesmen; but the knowledge of the scriptures and languages were then reputed universal erudition.

Some extraordinary geniuses arose spontaneously before the reign of Charles II. who by his wit, convivial humour, and affability to men of letters, reflected such honour upon that class, that the Royal Society became, by his beneficence and protection, the most learned, the most useful, and the most illustrious of all the academies of Europe.

The nation being soon after threatened by the mean, obstinate, silly, and bigotted James II. with the subversion of their religious and civil liberties, thought of nothing but their defence and preservation.

Those who tried to justify the violent and arbitrary measures of the times, cannot rank amongst the sensible part of the people.

William was a warrior and a politician; and though a prince of sense and some learning, he sacrificed all other objects to his ambitious and military projects.

The reign of queen Anne derives its principal lustre from those elegant writers, learned statesmen, profound philosophers, celebrated poets, judicious critics, and great orators, which places that period in the records of time above the boasted age of Lewis XIV.

George I. was a gentleman, but he had neither taste nor knowledge sufficient to encourage genius during the pacific intervals of his short reign.

Two long wars, both glorious, though not equally successful, his German concerns, and the accumulation of immense riches, were to George II. objects of too great importance to be diverted from them by his attention to the progress of arts and sciences in this kingdom.

We have seen in this distracted reign, without the assistance and protection of the sovereign and the nobles, men of spirit, genius, and application, undertake and accomplish works of such general use and instruction, as no society of men of letters can produce in any other kingdom, without the royal favour. The history of England has been treated by masterly pens; but whilst we admire the elegance and beauties of their style, the boldness of their reflections, and the force of their cha-

acters, we still lament that national prejudice, and a partiality dictated by resentment or party, should oblige us to suspend our belief upon the circumstances of the most interesting events, and the misrepresentation of those personages exposed to public odium by their offices.

The reputation of our tragic poets is confined to this island; as the moderns do not compensate, by strokes of genius and imagination, the puerilities which pass unnoticed in the few we admire.

Comedy is certainly at its lowest ebb; as a state intrigue, a scandalous anecdote, the character and obscenity of some fashionable profligate, compose the principal merit of the scene.

Divinity is happily looked upon by our prelates as the most useless of all sciences, and the eloquence of the chair shamefully traduced by their illiterate substitutes.

Philosophy is become the amusement of raw collegians, or the poor resource of old debauchees. No considerable improvement has been made lately in that useful science.

The political writers never wrote with more impudence and falsehood. Their sophistry intricates both sides of the question to such a degree, that the most judicious reader is at a loss to determine which is right or wrong. Besides, none are actuated by principles; all are influenced by interest or party. These civil contests cause a stagnation in the progress of all the other branches of literature.

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In a free state, where the eloquence at the bar, or in the senate, leads to the height of honours and fortune, a constant emulation will always produce a succession of orators, not inferior to the most conspicuous of Greece and Rome. But that fascinous oratory which warms the passions and subdues reason, so contrary to the simplicity of truth, is a sure symptom of a declining state. Demosthenes, Cicero, and Cæsar announced the fall of their commonwealths; the last enslaved it. In general, a genteel and liberal education diffuses a superficial knowledge through all ranks of people. We have many good classics, and elegant authors of pleasing essays and fugitive pieces, but very few creative geniuses, whose works bear the stamp of immortality. Both universities are still entitled to a sort of precedence above the other seminaries of learning in Europe; but there is room for improvement in the method and elements of their instruction.

The liberal arts, if not carried to that degree of perfection, which is a standing pattern of taste and excellence above other nations, still are in honour and repute amongst us. We have some limners who rival the best of France and Italy; but no historical painters to be compared to the modern Romans. This noble art does not seem the natural growth of a protestant country: it is an exotic which may thrive here by chance; but its favourite soil is in the regions of superstition, where pictures and images make

a part of the public worship. There, churches and monasteries are the continual resources of an artist, without the accidental patronage of sovereigns and rich individuals. Our Engravers, if inferior to the French in expression, surpass them in invention.

Inigo Jones and Sir Christopher Wren have numerous admirers, but no imitators. We have many architects of the second class, none of the first. A stranger is delighted with the variety of fine modern buildings in and about the metropolis; but there are few edifices which will bear a nice examen, and astonish the beholder. Some of our sculptors have exhibited a lively imitation of nature.

This nation may justly boast being the first in Europe in all those inventions and refinements, which are calculated for convenience and sensuality. This is perhaps a proof of its depravity and effeminacy, and may be considered as the fatal prelude to its slavery and destruction.

France, in this trifling age, excels other nations in bagatelle. The frequent intercourse of both sexes, the levity of that people, their arrogance and vanity, will always prompt them to invent something to please and amuse. It is not the veracity of an historian, nor the justness of his reflections, which get him a name; but an agreeable fiction, an extraordinary anecdote, a fashionable style, some fictitious and romantic characters. The best writers in the reign of Lewis XIV. far

from being eclipsed by the present in elegance, purity and diction, preserve still their superiority, notwithstanding the affected brilliancy of their emulators. The *petits maitres*, a species of sprightly, effeminate, and ridiculous beings, more caressed by women, on account of their exquisite and splendid apparel, than for the sake of their intrinsic qualities, have introduced at the toilet of their female admirers, an unintelligible jargon, which has infected the compositions of the *Beaux Esprits à la mode*. Some of these ludicrous and insignificant expressions have been even adopted by their comic poets, who, for the truth of the characters, and the decent representation of the vices and foibles which they have delineated, stand forth as the chaste favourites of Thalia.

Their tragedians, fettered by absurd rhymes, cannot give a full scope to their imagination. Most of their scenes are languid declamations, which tediously bring on the unaffecting catastrophe of a hero, who has never appeared in the character of a man.

Women claim the exclusive privilege of judging, without appeal, of the merit of dramatic pieces, and their fate is commonly determined before they are acted. Their lyric poets deserve to be more known, and better understood by the English. They have some men of universal reputation in natural philosophy, metaphysics, and geometry. As the title of *Bel Esprit*, acquired by a novel, an ode, an elegy, or a

discourse to some of their academies, is an introduction to the beau monde, most gentlemen under that denomination are men of pleasure and society. They are frequently admitted to the tables of dukes and princes, with whom they converse with freedom and familiarity; but they seldom confer on them any real favours.

The most noble, the most generous, and the most exalted sentiments, which triumph at last over various obstacles and unforeseen accidents, are diversified with profusion and delicacy in their romances; and in general, they have an interesting manner of treating all subjects of intrigue and gallantry, as they have no less experience than theory. The polite conversation and the sentimental maxims with which women have the address to varnish their foibles and misconduct, infuse very early, notions of that disinterested love, which causes alternately the anguish and pleasure of their heroes.

If their numerous academies cannot boast of those productions of genius and erudition, which raise a learned society to the highest excellence, they still spread widely the branches of polite literature, and make the abode of most of their great cities agreeable and entertaining.

Their parliaments justly considered as the oracles of the laws, and the illustrious asserters of the people's rights and privileges, have distinguished themselves in these latter days by their noble opposition to the severe and oppressive

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pressive edicts of their king; and by those spirited and patriotic remonstrances, which would reflect honour upon the British senate. Some of these magistrates have acquired by their writings an immortal fame.

Notwithstanding the severe restraint laid upon the press, some intrepid and sublime geniuses have exposed the vices of their government, and the abuses of their administration, with a freedom and energy that breathe the spirit of the most renowned ages of Rome.

They have, like us, many ingenious artists; but scarcely one who may be proposed as a pattern to other nations. Their painters, architects, and sculptors, dependent upon the beneficence of a few princes and grandees, do not meet with that general encouragement which ours receive from a number of rich individuals; and, content to move within the regular sphere of their art, their imagination seldom takes a higher flight. None but the French can admire their music: all foreigners despise their operas, and laugh at the affectation and monotony of their performers.

They have carried their tapestries of the Gobelins, for the contrivance of the design, the expression of the figures, and the variegated beauty of the colours, to a degree of perfection admired and unrivaled by other nations.

Italy, once the seat of empire, and twice the nursery of arts and sciences, seems to approach a period of decay almost irretrievable, amidst the pompous inscriptions

and monuments, calculated to perpetuate the names and stupendous works of the famous men of ancient and modern Latium. Whoever travels in that country (the celebrity of which resounds still in the opinion of the learned and artists) is less attracted by the splendid ruins and the awful fragments of their illustrious founders, than moved with regret to foresee their farther decline and oblivion. Those superb aqueducts, those magnificent triumphal arches, those columns, statues, and inimitable pictures buried in the dust; the favourite abode of men of taste and genius, forlorn and neglected; make one lament that they left behind them no emulators of their grandeur and reputation. The splendid poverty, the pageantry, and the ostentatious luxury of the modern Italians, exhibit only their folly and vanity. Sovereigns without dominions, immense cities without inhabitants, gorgeous palaces without families or furniture, a fine and fruitful country without cottages and husbandmen, is a true picture of the abject state of that magnified nation.

The king of Sardinia, respected on account of his political and military virtues, has scarcely a revenue sufficient to maintain his household and a standing army. The useful arts are tottering, in his poor dominions, under the scanty support of his economy. The obsolete theology, Aristotle's philosophy, ecclesiastical history, intermixed with the legends and the absurd decrees of the pontiffs of Rome,

some dull operas with insipid recitatives, a Gothic jurisprudence, present at once a view of the state of literature beyond the Alps. The arts of painting, sculpture, and architecture, have not lately reached farther than a servile copy, an insipid uniformity, proportion, and symetry, which discover the exactness and mechanism of the pupils, whose genius and imagination do not take a flight above the master's manner and instructions.

The Genoese, more noted for their cunning, activity, and industry, than for their taste and encouragement of polite literature, have carried modern architecture beyond the noble simplicity of that art. The decoration of their churches, the elegance of their villas, and the magnificence of some palaces, deserve, in many respects, the encomiums bestowed on them; but many of these edifices are clogged with an immense profusion of statues and superfluous ornaments.

Lombardy, deprived of the presence and immediate protection of its sovereign, shews, by some monuments of its capital, justly admired, how much the liberal arts formerly flourished amongst them.

The Bourbons will never eclipse the glory and reputation of the Farnesi, whose taste, genius, and magnificence, appear, in so many public edifices, planned and accomplished under their auspicious reign.

Venice is more celebrated for its pristine glory, than its actual lustre and renown. It seems as if that state had lost all emulation

for arts and sciences, with the loss of its commerce and dominions.

Modern Rome may still be reckoned the seat of arts and sciences in Italy. The taste and erudition of many eminent dignitaries in the church, still maintain its pre-eminence in universal knowledge, and useful improvements. The public libraries, the precious remains of antiquity, the numerous cabinets of curiosities, and the great and judicious collections of whatever is conducive to entertainment or instruction, will always be an inexhaustible source of learning and emulation. There are at Rome celebrated writers and professors in divinity, philosophy, sacred and profane history, mathematics, and the learned languages. The other branches of polite literature are not so generally cultivated. The antiquary and virtuoso diffuse a general taste for liberal arts, which will prevent their decline and extinction. The learned and artists are neglected and despised by the vain, ostentatious, and illiterate Neapolitan.

As long as the iniquitous and tyrannical tribunal of the inquisition shall prevail in Spain and Portugal, the introduction of true philosophy, the parent of sciences and public literature, is impracticable. These nations vilified by despotism and superstition, are two centuries behind the civilized people of Europe, in all sorts of improvements: their ignorance and stupidity, in this enlightened age, exceed all belief and description.

The universities of Leyden and Utrecht are the two firm seminaries

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ries of learning of the United Provinces. A sordid and insatiable thirst after riches makes the Dutch neglect and despise whatever diverts them from their commercial interests and pursuits. Thus, except a few eminent professors, the bulk of that selfish nation look upon learned men and artists as useless members of society. Some members of the state, foreign ministers, and mercenary writers, support at the Hague the languishing state of polite literature. Wealth and commerce concur reciprocally to the improvement and perfection of liberal arts: in a country where the desires of the inhabitants ought to be limited by their circumstances, the bare conveniences of life are the ultimate end of their pursuits. The refinement of arts is deemed luxury and superfluity: which is the reason they have so few artists in Switzerland; but in the protestant Cantons most men of fortune cultivate letters with success and reputation. There is not perhaps a nation in Europe more civilized or better instructed than the generality of the inhabitants of Bern and Zurich. If they are not remarkable for their discoveries and inventions, they enrich their barren country with the most useful improvements of other nations. Their want of trade and dissipation engages them to learn whatever can give them an honourable distinction amongst their fellow citizens.

The Germans are learned and laborious; but polite literature and works of genius are only encouraged and honoured at Vienna and Berlin. The universities of Hall, Leipzig, and Gottingen, still

have professors of great fame and erudition. There are more men of letters and artists in the king of Prussia's dominions, than in all the rest of Germany besides. It is to be regretted that the works of the learned in that country are so prolix and voluminous.

Notwithstanding the generous efforts of the empress of Russia to transplant arts and sciences into her wide dominions, they never can take root in that uncivilized region, but by the exerted patronage of a succession of sovereigns, equally conspicuous for their taste, genius, and munificence.

Polite literature is at the lowest ebb in Sweden and Denmark.

Observations on the merit of particular English writers.

THE characteristic of the English poets is a fruitful imagination, and a creative genius, which supplies them constantly with that celestial fire, that heavenly enthusiasm, those beautiful images, and enchanting descriptions, which place them in a different class from other nations, whom they disdain to imitate.

The Paradise Lost will always distinguish Milton from the ancient and modern epic poets, in spite of the ungenerous criticism of William Lauder, who stigmatized the author of that amazing production with the scurrilous imputation of having stolen from Homer, from Virgil, from the poem intitled Sorellis of Maartenius, and from the tragedy of Adamus Exul of Hugo Grotius.

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Though Dryden, Pope, and Swift, had the modesty to acknowledge in their annotations, the great advantages which they had derived from the lectures of the ancients, they may be purely considered as originals. The philosophy of Leibnitz is the subject of Pope's *Essay on Man*, as Lucretius is a poetical exposition of the system of Epicurus; yet both have a reputation at least equal to these illustrious philosophers.

Shakespeare, without taking for models the ancient dramatic poets, found in his fancy, in his luxuriant imagination, in his enthusiasm, and amazing insight into all the foldings of the human heart, those inimitable beauties which delight and astonish.

The particular form of the English government is, in every respect, advantageous to the progress of literature. Greece, and the Roman commonwealth, never offered such a vast field for the ode, as the English revolutions for two centuries past. The flourishing reign of Elizabeth, the tragical death of the queen of Scots, the two crowns united under James I. the fanaticism which snatched the scepter and the life of the unfortunate Charles, the odious, but brilliant reign of the usurper, the restoration of the lawful king, the intestine divisions and civil feuds, not half extinguished by the Revolution, have, ever since, inspired all the muses with that enthusiastic fire, which has not blazed amongst other nations. The successful army, and amazing intrepidity of Cromwell, supplied Waller with the sublimities of that ode to which he owes his fame.

All these wonderful events, and uncommon characters, have supported poetry in its lyric and dramatic lustre.

But above all things, that which gives a particular lustre to every kind of English literature in prose and verse, is undoubtedly the liberty of the press. The number of persons of all conditions, who write and publish whatever their genius, caprice, passion, or prejudice suggest to them, raises the just indignation of the critics against many ridiculous, absurd, and despicable compositions; whilst those select geniuses, and judicious writers, who exert their talents, and communicate their knowledge with an unbounded liberty, instruct, delight, and astonish their readers, by the free and independent thoughts, which other nations are forced to conceal.

Criticism maintains the vigour and reputation of literature, as the censor preserved in Rome, manners, and good discipline.

The instability and variations of the English language, gave to Waller such a distaste for his native tongue, that he confessed he was afraid he should neither be read nor understood in the next century; and Pope was of opinion, that his stile, and that of his contemporaries, would be disused in a little time after him.

Now length of fame (our second life) is lost,

And bare threescore is all ev'n that can boast;

Our sons their father's failing language see:

And such as Chaucer is, shall Dryden be.

Essay on Criticism.

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Of all the causes which have chiefly contributed to the support of literature in England, the principal is the learned education of youth. Notwithstanding the dissipation and degeneracy of our nobility, they still send their sons to public colleges, where the Greek and Latin languages are taught with more exactness and purity than in any foreign seminaries. As Greek and Latin are the foundation of literature, they acquire by regular studies a taste for the classics, which is an introduction to all branches of polite learning. To these studies the abbé Le Blanc attributes the majority of men of erudition in England above France.

Reflections on the progress of literature in Scotland.

SCOTLAND, during many ages, had but one author of celebrity in the empire of letters. Buchanan was the only man of reputation in his kingdom, whilst all the provinces of Europe emerged from barbarism, by the new light of the sixteenth century. The tempestuous reign of Mary Stuart gave a full scope to his genius for satire, which he indulged in his history of Scotland, with an acrimony too manifest against that unfortunate queen. The elegance of his Latin poetry, particularly of his Paraphrase upon the Psalms, has set him above all his competitors in that way. James I. being seated upon the throne of England, took no sort of care to promote the liberal arts of his native kingdom. An Irish doctor, and a generous duke, after a total

eclipse of two centuries, roused the Scots from their indolence and stupidity by new flashes of an artificial lightning. Francis Hutcheson, professor of philosophy in the university of Glasgow, gave a new lustre to that forlorn seminary, and revived the study of letters, which afterwards produced excellent fruits in abundance. Archibald Campbell, duke of Argyle, gave the most munificent encouragement to its pupils, and rendered by his protection that university one of the most famous in Europe. That spirit which animated literature in the capital, spread itself to the most distant provinces; and the most illustrious authors of Great Britain of late years have been men bred and born in Scotland. Simson, Macclaurin, Ferguson, and Cullen, treated mathematics and experimental philosophy with a precision and elegance which had been thought unapplicable to those sciences. History and poetry were cultivated with an amazing and unexpected success. The name of Thomson as a poet is no less famous in the tragic than in the didactic composition. His Seasons are delightful and inimitable; and his tragedies rival the Cato of Addison. Wilkie would have had more admirers, if Pope had not made Homer so well known to his countrymen. Blacklock, blind in his infancy, will be looked upon by posterity as a prodigy. His perfect knowledge of Greek, Latin, Italian, and French, and his great merit as a poet, rank him amongst his most illustrious contemporaries. Mallet, and John Hume, have enriched the London theatre with dramatic pieces. England,

so rich in excellent books of all kinds, still wanted historians: it was reserved for Scotland to supply that deficiency. What learned man in Europe is not acquainted with the universally admired *Essays*, and the celebrated history of David Hume? He reckons as many admirers as readers. Smollet has perpetuated, in his elegant history, the glory of his nation with his name. Robertson, in beauty of style, judgment, precision, historical knowledge, and sagacity in exhibiting the most illustrious characters, has scarce an equal in the three kingdoms.

Guthrie, a judicious and learned critic, the first man who had the courage, discernment, and erudition to collect the scattered materials of the History of Scotland, and to unfold the most remote antiquity, graced with his elegant and sagacious reflections, will be recorded with honour in the annals of time.

In vain the presumptuous authors of the capital claim a precedence above their northern countrymen. In delicacy of sentiment, and energy of expression, the Scotch are at this time the principal writers in the English language. Most of the great masters in all kinds of literature are strangers in that metropolis, which considers herself as the seat of taste and erudition.

Reflections on the characters and works of Montesquieu and Voltaire.

THE president Montesquieu and Mr. Voltaire, are justly reckoned the tutelar geniuses of

the reign of Lewis XV. The Spirit of Laws is the work of a legislator, of a philosopher, a logician and a great statesman. The profound erudition, and the strength of argument, which reign through this book, amuse, delight, and instruct. It contains excellent materials to raise a most superb edifice. He wrote for men of genius and contemplation, not for the illiterate vulgar; and often sacrificed the diction, to the force and energy of his sublime ideas. His system is calculated to make sovereigns and subjects happy and glorious; and his universal benevolence ought to endear his memory to all mankind, whom he tried to instruct and to reform. His Persian Letters are a collection of bold thoughts, without order or connection, well adapted to the vague principles of a free-thinker.

Voltaire is reputed the first and most universal French writer of his time; and he has a more extensive reputation than any man of letters in Europe. If his tragedies are not equal, they are not much inferior to those of Racine. His tragedies of invention, as *Zaire*, *Alzire*, the *Orphan of China*, have incurred the censure of some for having intermixed religion with love, jealousy, ambition, and other theatrical passions; but they contain beauties and sentiments peculiar to his taste and genius.

The language and the imagination of the French are not sublime enough for epic poetry. They confess themselves much inferior in that respect to England and Italy. Notwithstanding the great encomiums bestowed upon the sixth and seventh cantos of the

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Henriad by some editors, who have ventured to say that there is more merit in them than in the whole Iliad, his imagination falls very short of that of the ancient and modern epic poets. Whilst we admire in all the other works of Voltaire the beauties of his style, and the talent he possesses of rendering the most common events interesting, we lament that he has sacrificed truth and accuracy to the elegance of diction, and the new turn of a period.

The merit of particular German writers, especially poets.

THE Messiah, and the Death of Abel, will immortalize Klopstock and Gesner, whose admirable genius, and sublime imagination, rank these productions amongst the best poetical performances of this age. Whoever reads the Messiah of Klopstock is raptured at the slight and heavenly ideas of that excellent poet, who seems inspired by the awful dignity of his subject. The pathetic beauties of the Death of Abel operate upon the mind of the reader with such force, that he cannot refrain from tears at the moving recital of the unnatural crime and ferocity of Cain, and the fatal destiny of his innocent brother. Haller, poet, physician, philosopher, and mathematician, by his vast genius, and universal knowledge, has compassed all the branches of useful and polite learning. He appears with the same grace and propriety in the characters of Pope and Boerhaave. Rabner, the rival of the English Lucian, stands with him in the same

degree of reputation. Uz is a most pleasing lyric. Gellen deserves by his comedies the title of the German Terence. The fugitive pieces of Kleist gave him the honourable appellation of Greflet. Lessing, as the poet of nature, and a critic, has no competitor in Germany.

If we judge of the flourishing state of literature by the multitude of writers, it is rather a proof of its decay, than of its prosperous condition. There were more men of letters in the reign of Domitian, than in that of Augustus. When a nation has produced a few men of eminent learning and genius, their reputation stimulates others of an inferior class with the desire to imitate them; and in order to appear originals, they affect a singularity in their style and opinions, which make them insensibly deviate from the natural beauties of their great models. This is the cause of the quantity of contemptible books propagated by these essayists. In proportion as voluptuousness and luxury prevail, the taste for trifling productions increases. Taste and literature are concomitant to the prosperity of a nation. Demosthenes, Plato, Xenophon, Sophocles, shone in Greece. Tully, Cæsar, Livy, Virgil, Horace, were in the highest reputation at Rome, when the success of their arms and commerce procured them the abundance of all those commodities, which introduced magnificence, splendor, politeness, and effeminacy; and as the abbe Racine justly observes, *L'esprit devient commun quand le genie devient rare*. We have, observes a French author, departed from our models to adopt the most opposite

posite taste to true eloquence. What happened to the Romans may happen to us. We are no longer affected by nature, nor moved by the beautiful, simple, and majestic. Like those person whose palates require the artificial

resource of strong liquors, we desire to be courted by witticisms, fallies of imagination, ingenious pictures, a style of epigram and antithesis; in a word, we neglect the intrinsic value, for a glittering superficies.

**** The plan of this article opens such an extensive field for history, speculation, and criticism, as cannot easily be exhibited to view in the narrow compass allotted for it in this volume. Lest the reader should imagine we intend to drop the subject, we think it proper to observe, that what is offered here, is only designed as an introduction to a more copious and regular history of the arts and sciences, and of polite learning in Europe; which will be displayed at large in some future volumes.*

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HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL STATE OF EUROPE,

For the YEAR 1769.

Containing a concise and distinct View of the present War, with a
Sketch of the national Character of the Turks and Russians.

INTRODUCTION.

WE think we may venture to affirm, there hardly ever was a period when the political state of affairs on the continent of Europe, demanded a more critical observation than the present : and while, on the one hand, we cannot lament the want of historical events ; on the other, it requires no great degree of perspicuity to discern the difficulty of digesting a regular history from their present distracted situation.

The late disturbances in the North, have rendered the transactions abroad singularly interesting ; yet we could have wished, they had been less fruitful of historical materials, as public tranquillity, on which the happiness of mankind is founded, is an object of greater importance than the recital of those events, which must necessarily prove destructive to it.

The unhappy disturbances in the kingdom of Sweden, have been highly alarming as well as injurious to the common interests of the people : and though the

king has resumed the government he abdicated for a short time, his subjects still lament their miserable situation, and experience the impracticability of a redress of grievances. Grown desperate by their distresses, many have bid adieu to their native country, chusing rather to risk the chance of calamity abroad, than submit to that ruin which was approaching towards them with hasty strides at home.

It is evident, the king has not been wanting in inclination to relieve the sufferings of his people, but in power ; the taxes levied are more than his subjects have ability to pay, especially those who find it difficult to support their own existence. However, the king has nobly forbidden the effects of the poor to be seized by the officers of the revenue for the taxations of the state ; by which means, their power has in some degree been limited, and their insolence abated ; but the oppressions of the military still continue irresistible. The want of power in the kings of Sweden,

Sweden, seems to have given authority to the oppressions of the senatorial tyrants, which have ever occasioned murmurings, dissatisfactions, and tumults among the people; so that their negligence in the cultivation of the useful arts, and disregard for the credit and welfare of the country, cannot be a matter of surprise, since the generality of mankind will ever be remiss and inattentive to those things in which their own interest and happiness is not principally concerned.

The distracted situation of Poland is truly deplorable, as well as highly interesting; being, at the same time, singular in its causes, and destructive in its consequences and effects. Religion has entered into the quarrel here, and the testimony of ages past has convinced us, where that becomes the subject of contention, the worst of evils are to be expected. The dissidents have been long harassed and oppressed in the public exercise of their religious worship, through the bigotry and tyranny of the popish clergy. However, the empress of Russia has stepped forth in the defence and support of the just rights of the dissidents; and indeed, has interfered in the general interests of the Poles, ever since the death of the late king. Her reasons for this interposition are obvious, since there is some probability that the commotions in Poland might in time affect the tranquility of Russia, that being the only foreign state from whence the Russian empire can well have any thing to fear. By the influence of the empress at the diet of the states, the claims of the dissidents were acknowledged and

confirmed, and the ecclesiastical establishment of the kingdom settled agreeable to the treaty of Olivia, and the terms stipulated at the present king's accession to the throne. This proceeding was a great and unexpected blow to the ambitious views of the popish clergy; who, jealous of their power, and unwilling to submit to a diminution of it, soon meditated measures of revenge; at first, rather secretly, till they had collected sufficient strength to blow the fiery flame with violence. In a short time, insurrections and conspiracies were perpetually springing up, which ended at length in an open and avowed confederacy, to annul the decrees of the diet, and support oppression with the sword. In consequence of these resolutions, many of the towns in the possession of the dissidents were plundered, set on fire, the inhabitants massacred without distinction of age or sex, and their property ravaged and destroyed with unrelenting wantonness and cruelty, the natural effects of religious persecution.

These tumultuous proceedings were too numerous and too rapid, to be repelled by the Russian troops then in Poland, so that a more powerful force became necessary. A requisition being made to the empress for this purpose, and a fresh supply being immediately granted, the jealousy of the Turks was excited. In consequence of this, the Russian ambassador at the Porte was insulted and imprisoned, under a pretence of his having concealed the hostile intentions of his court. This was considered as a master-stroke of policy; but it is highly probable, the

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SECTION I.

State of Denmark and Sweden.

the error and fatal effects of this proceeding, will be severely felt by the Ottoman empire. Remonstrances and appeals respecting the unwarrantableness of this step were suffered to pass unnoticed, and consequently, were ineffectual in procuring the release of the ambassador. The British resident laboured to appease the impending storm without success, being secretly counteracted by the French ambassador, who endeavoured to expediate and encrease it. A war between the two powers is the consequence, the event of which must be shewn hereafter: nor is it easy to say what may be the fate of Poland; for though the confederates were unable to combat with the power of Russia, the consequence of a reinforcement from the Turks may produce very different effects.

The unhappy disturbances in our American colonies, with those which have happened at home, together with the war in the East Indies, are subjects of such importance, as demand the strictest attention, and open an extensive field for history. Of these, and many other particulars equally interesting, we have endeavoured to give our readers all the satisfaction which the events themselves would afford, and the plan of our work allow, under distinct heads, preserving through the whole an impartiality and regard for truth, which it will ever be our ambition studiously to support.

The reader will observe, we have not attended regularly to the geographical order of the countries of which we treat, but as they are most materially connected with the general state of Europe.

THE kings of Denmark were originally elected by the convention of the states, and great attention was paid to the personal virtues of such as were raised to the throne; insomuch, that though the descendants of their monarchs were first considered on every demise, yet if they found they possessed not those virtues which had raised their ancestors to the royal dignity, they were deemed unworthy, and of course excluded. So that the power of the constitution was invested in the convened assemblies, who were the law-givers, and not only settled the disposal of the offices of state, but the affairs of war and peace; and when occasion made it necessary, the imposition of taxes. Thus their kings were only nominal, and in respect to power, little more than prime ministers of the people; except that they presided over the administration of public justice, the army, and the general interests of the nation. They received no emoluments from the revenue of the state, but were obliged to live on the incomes of their own private fortunes and estates.

In the year 1660, the constitution of Denmark underwent a very sudden and surprizing revolution.

A war with Sweden had greatly exhausted the public finances, as well as harrassed the nation in general; at the conclusion of which, and the settling a treaty of peace, the treasury was found to be incapable of paying and disbanding the

the army. This occasioned much discontent, and encreased the dissatisfaction of all ranks of people ; among whom, the clergy were not the least clamorous. The evils under which the inhabitants of Denmark then laboured, being too numerous and too distressful to remain long in such a situation, the assemblies were therefore convened to consider means for a redress of grievances, when the commons proposed an equal taxation on all persons without distinction, in proportion to their circumstances and situations. This was opposed by the nobles who pleaded their privileges and right of exemption. To this it was alleged by the burghers, that as the nobility were in possession of all the lands and riches of the kingdom, it was unreasonable and unjust that they should bear no share in the burthen of the national taxes. Disputes ran very high, and to violent lengths ; during which, the commons were treated with great contempt by the nobility, and considered as their slaves. This brought matters to the crisis which seemed to be wished, and indeed had been premeditated.

The assemblies broke up in great disorder ; those of the burghers and clergy withdrew with their leaders to a public hall, where it was proposed, debated, and agreed, to make a tender of their freedom to the king, and thereby establish him absolute monarch of the realm, with the hereditary right of succession in his family. Of this, the court was not unapprised. The next day they assembled and repaired to the common-hall while the nobles were sitting, where the

speaker of the house of commons declared the substance of the resolution agreed to by them, and in very peremptory terms demanded the concurrence of the nobles ; which, if not complied with, they were told they should proceed to the palace without them. This was so sudden and unexpected, that the nobles were not prepared to make any reply ; however, fear obliged them to shew a willingness to concur with the other states, but they remonstrated against the precipitancy of the proceeding, and desired time to consider of it. All this was without effect, the rest were immoveable in their determination, and therefore proceeded to the palace, leaving the nobles to the choice of acting as they thought proper, who considered it most prudent at all events to join the procession.

When the whole had reached the palace, they were received by the prime minister, who introduced them to the audience-hall, where the bishop of Copenhagen, as deputy from the two orders, in a very animated speech, made a solemn tender of an absolute and hereditary dominion to the king, with every possible assurance of their supporting him with their lives and fortunes, in a measure so necessary to the welfare of the people, in relieving them from the yoke of oppression imposed by the tyranny of the nobility. The king, as may be imagined, readily consented to the proposal, and receiving them very graciously, assured them of his favour and protection ; at the same time expressing some very generous acknowledgments of their zeal and confidence. Things being come to this

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this length, an order was issued for the immediate shutting the city gates, that as none of the senators could escape, they might be brought to a concurrence. This step produced the effect intended. The nobles were so alarmed and intimidated, as to give an immediate consent to what had been proposed by the two other parties. In consequence of this, on the 16th of October, the king, queen, and royal family, publicly received homage from the three orders, by an oath of allegiance planned for that purpose. From this period, the kings of Denmark have succeeded to the throne by hereditary right; and thus did the Danes, from motives of revenge, rashly relinquish their liberty and independence, giving to their monarchs a despotic power over their lives and fortunes.

The events to be feared from this desperate step, have not been either so unfortunate, or so fatal as might reasonably be expected; for though the monarchs of Denmark are all-powerful, yet since the period above-mentioned, the kingdom through a happy succession of wise and benevolent princes has enjoyed the fruits of a mild administration, which has rendered it one of the best governed and most flourishing states in the north: so that the inhabitants have but little reason to complain of the imprudence of their ancestors, and therefore are happy in their submission to their sovereigns.—Commerce and the arts have of late years been greatly cultivated and encouraged, and Denmark rears its head with respect and glory among the neighbouring nations.

Those differences which lately

subsisted between his present majesty and the empress of Russia, were last year most amicably settled, and the empress confirmed the treaty which had been concluded by her minister at the Danish court. This affair concerned their respective possessions in Holstein, in which the empress acted as guardian for her son, who is duke of part of that duchy. A treaty has also been concluded by the two courts, with the city of Hamburg, by which, in future, it is acknowledged an imperial and free city, and is possessed of some prerogatives in respect to its territories, as well as advantages in trade, from which it was before excluded.

This young monarch, who seems desirous of contributing to the happiness of his people, is said to have suggested an intention of restoring to the peasants some share of their natural liberties; this is a design worthy of a king, and must not only endear him to the hearts of his subjects, but make them consider the loss of their political constitution with less regret than heretofore. To this great and benevolent intention, we cannot without injustice omit to mention his having directed a general survey to be taken of all the lands through the whole kingdom, in order to regulate the taxations on a more equal footing. His marriage with the princess Carolina of England, has been blessed by the birth of a prince, an event which probably will cement a closer friendship between the two nations, to the great advantage of both; since the ties of consanguinity and inclination, cannot fail to interest them in each other's welfare.

fare. His majesty's visit to England in 1768, cannot yet be lost in remembrance.

The political interest of Denmark seems secure and permanent, as it has but little to fear from the empire. The dominion is firmly guarded on the continent by Sleswick, nor can any thing but a maritime power effect the invasion of the islands belonging to this state. A pacific system seems necessary, and to be wished by this monarch, the better to enable him to carry his salutary schemes into execution. And should any future differences arise between him and the house of Holstein, the king of Great Britain is the proper arbiter to regulate and settle them. Nothing remarkable has happened in Denmark during the course of this year, except some endeavours to check the insults of the Algerines upon the trade of this kingdom, which were executed with a becoming dignity and spirit. Some of the latest advices mention a declaration of war by the Algerines against Denmark, but this seems to want confirmation; and should it be true, it is imagined they will soon be obliged to sue for peace.

STATE of SWEDEN.

WE with the compass to which this department of our work is confined, would allow room for a particular description of the country of Sweden, as well as some others, of which we shall hereafter have occasion to treat, but at present these things must be omitted; and therefore

we are obliged to confine ourselves to what most immediately respects the plan laid down, viz. a view of the present state of the different countries of Europe.

The throne of Sweden was once elective, but in the year 1682 became hereditary, and was erected into an absolute monarchy by that disturber of the peace of Europe Charles XII. who was killed at the siege of Frederichal in Norway, which occasioned a change of government again.

As soon as his death was known, his sister Ulrica Eleonora, who succeeded him, call'd an assembly of the senate, and was proclaimed queen of Sweden. She was no sooner raised to the throne, but she perceived the uneasiness of her subjects, in consequence of the despotism with which Charles had governed the nation; and therefore, wisely determined to relieve their minds, by restoring their ancient freedom again without solicitation. This design was made known by a proclamation, in which the queen declared her intention of re-establishing the original form of government, and renouncing all absolute power and dominion for herself and her successors; and at the assembly of the states at Stockholm in the year 1719, she not only confirmed the same by a formal renunciation, but refused to accept of the crown but by right of election. This occasioned the states to declare the throne vacant, when she was elected sovereign of Sweden by the unanimous consent of the people, a tribute of gratitude she justly merited. Thus the crown of Sweden from being the most absolute, became the most limited in Europe;

Europe; and the estates recovered their former power and privileges without restriction.

As soon as the queen was elected, the form of administration according to the antient constitution, was immediately settled, by the states; after which, it was proposed to associate the prince of Hesse with the queen in the royal dignity, he having been her consort, prior to the death of her brother Charles. This met with great opposition, in consequence of which, the queen, signified by a letter to the states, her willingness to resign the crown in his favour, in case any difficulty arose in respect to his sharing it with her. And the prince sent to the different orders, acquainting them, that if they should think proper to elect him king, he would confirm and ratify such restrictions, as they should propose and think necessary; and also conform to the national church, and inviolably support and maintain its principles as by law established. He further intimated, that, as the queen's renunciation of all pretensions to absolute power, was by his advice, he would observe the rules prescribed by the form of the established regency, with the strictest faith. These offers were so satisfactory to the states, that, they agreed to comply with the request of the queen, and accordingly chose the prince, king of Sweden. — And though they paid the queen the compliment of settling the succession upon her male-heirs, in return for the restoration of liberty, still they had the caution to stipulate, that no prince should succeed to the throne under the age of twenty-one; nor

then, without giving his solemn assurance in the assembly of the states, and taking the oaths prescribed by the laws of Sweden.

At the time the prince of Hesse ascended the throne, the kingdom was involved in a very dangerous war with all the neighbouring powers; however he soon settled three treaties of peace, upon terms neither injurious, nor inglorious to the Swedes; one with Denmark, another with Prussia, and a third with the czar of Muscovy; and in the year 1729, terms of reconciliation were settled between the crowns of Poland and Sweden. Thus he wisely saw, what is undoubtedly the case in respect to this kingdom, that it is her interest to live on terms of friendship with all her neighbours. Russia is her nearest, and seems to be her only formidable rival. But while Sweden attends to her internal advantages, extension of trade, and endeavours to cultivate a good understanding with the maritime powers of Europe, she can have little to fear from that quarter; as their fleets in the Baltic, will ever be a check to any designs Russia may have upon that state.

It is with some concern, we are obliged to observe, that a very different conduct has been pursued of late in Sweden. The French party has greatly prevailed in that kingdom, through the artful intrigues of count Gyllembourg and his successor count Tessin, to whom also, the recent misunderstanding, between the king and the states are to be ascribed. The Swedes, it must be confessed, have lately given strict attention to the suppression of the growth of luxury; and have established an important

law for extending the liberty of the press; but this seems to be grasping at shadows to the neglect of the real substance; since monarchy, which once shone with resplendent lustre, seems at present obscured and lost. The king has been lately treated with the grossest indignities, and his subjects oppressed with hardships almost insupportable. The first has arisen from the small portion of power enjoyed by the kings of Sweden; and the latter, from an almost unlimited one, with which the senate is invested, and which is established by the constitution: so that the change from absolute monarchy, has not been attended with those happy consequences which it seemed to promise.

During the course of the last year, an ordinance was published at Stockholm by the senate, which greatly contributed to the public dissatisfaction. We shall here present our readers, with a sketch of its contents, as it may serve to give them an idea of the arbitrary spirit of administration in that country, and the little attention shewn to the liberties and security of the people.

By this ordinance, a power is given to the fiscals, to enter the houses of the inhabitants without distinction, upon information of contraband goods: all persons using violence in the securing or carrying away such goods, are to suffer death; and such as attempt to oppose the officers of the revenue in their search, are to be whipt publicly.—If any disputes arise upon this subject, they are to be decided by the board of customs; which is giving them a power to be both accusers and

judges, and that in a matter in which they themselves are interested; by which means the characters and lives of the public are left to the mercy of an inferior tribunal. The consequences have been very fatal; many of the principal merchants immediately quitting business and bankruptcies multiplying beyond the credit of belief; in so much, that the magistrates and all the inhabitants of the city of Nicarleby in Finland (one merchant only excepted) declared themselves insolvent; an instance almost unparalleled. It must, indeed, be confessed, that the languishing state of commerce in Sweden, brought on by the distractions of the country, prior to the publication of the ordinance just mentioned, might in some degree contribute to this calamitous circumstance; but that it was brought to a crisis, and confirmed from this cause, is what we will not venture to dispute.

The king, unable longer to bear with the grievous complaints of the people oppressed with taxes they were incapable of paying, and harassed by the insolence of the revenue-officers, toward the close of the year made a very extraordinary and vigorous effort to alleviate their distresses.

His first step, was to make application to the senate for the calling an anticipated convention of the four orders of which the diet of the kingdom is composed; with a view of making an enquiry into the causes of the grievances complained of, as also to examine into the state of the revenues, which, for some time had been in great disorder. This had not the desired effect, and the application was repeated

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repeated without being noticed; till at last, the senate declared their absolute refusal of the requisition made by the king, though his majesty pointed it out as the only means which could possibly be taken to remedy the public evils.

—While the state of affairs was in this situation, some differences arose between the senate and the board of treasury, in consequence of which, the senate resolved upon the establishment of an extraordinary tribunal to take cognizance of them. The king being apprised of this measure, repaired to the senate-house, where, in the strongest terms, he expressed his disapprobation of the proceeding, and again requested the holding an assembly of the states as before. But this not being complied with, he ordered a writing to be entered in the register of the senate, in his presence, which concludes thus:

“ If the college continued to oppose this convocation, he would abdicate the crown.” Whereupon, as soon as the king retired, the senate took his majesty’s declaration into consideration, which ended, in their sending two of the senators to court, to intreat him to desist from his demand; but his majesty declared he would not, and with great resolution, desired a categorical answer from the senate immediately. An hour after, six other senators came to intreat the king to grant the senate four days to consider of it. His majesty said he considered this demand as a refusal; that he renounced from that instant the government, till the states should be assembled; forbade the senate from issuing any thing in his name, and desired that the seals might be de-

livered to him. The next day the prince-royal, by the king’s command, repaired to the different colleges, and read the following order:

“ WE order by these presents, our dear son the prince royal, to make known to the colleges of state, that judging it necessary to convoke the states of the kingdom, we had presumed the senate would by this have consented to it; but they not having done so, we cannot but look on their silence as a refusal, consequently we find ourselves under the necessity of abdicating the government, till the said estates shall be convened. Done at Stockholm, December 13, 1768.

(Signed)

ADOLPHUS-FREDERICK.”

The keeper of the college of Chancery being absent, the demand made of the seals, with the royal arms could not be complied with. But the prince signified that the college should answer it to his majesty and the states, if they continued to make use of the seals.

The people assembled in prodigious crowds in the streets during the time the prince went to the different colleges, being anxious and full of impatience to learn the event of so extraordinary and critical a proceeding, which stopped all the functions of government, threw the ruling administration into the greatest disorder, and seemed to threaten a total, if not a fatal, change in the state of public affairs: nor, were the members of the senate less alarmed and perplexed

plexed by this bold and sudden manœuvre. Their next resolve was to send a third deputation to the king, beseeching him to change his resolution; which he refused to do, as before. They also sent two secretaries to the prince, to dissuade him from proceeding in his tour to the other colleges, but this effort, like the rest, proved ineffectual. These successive repulses, joined to the knowledge of the king's great popularity, to which we may add, the justice of the cause, alarmed the senate, and made them apprehensive of the worst consequences; they therefore gave orders for a reinforcement of the guard in all places through the city, and also directed the college of state-accounts to issue double pay to the troops of the garrison. In this instance, they first experienced their loss of power: the generals refused to obey any orders not authorised by the king; and the office of state-accounts waited on the assembly, and declared, that it was inconsistent with their instructions to comply with any request from them respecting extraordinary expences, unless jointly authorised by the king and senate; and therefore, it was impossible for them to grant double pay to the garrison, as desired. This unexpected check to the power of these tyrants, raised new fears, and increased the public confusion; notwithstanding which, the different colleges waited on the king, with an address of thanks for the notification he had sent them by the prince; and the following day all the colleges waited on the senate, and made formal declarations of their having suspended all the

functions of their respective departments; and signified to them, the necessity there was, from the situation of public affairs, of their complying with the king's request. This was seconded by the members of the magistracy of the city, who went to the senate also, where, among other things, they observed, that, as the whole public administration was in disorder, and no letters-patent issued for convoking the diet, they (the magistrates) agreeable to form of government, thought it necessary to convoke the order of burghers. Upon this, six of the senators, who saw the critical situation of things, came to a resolution of conforming to the king's intentions; which compelled, (if not the whole senate) a great majority of voices, to consent to the convention of the desired assembly. In consequence of this, the king's concurrence was solicited to confirm the proclamation for that purpose; which was readily granted, as may be supposed; and when the letters-patent were signed, his majesty resumed the government again, when the business of the public went on in the usual channels. Thus ended this extraordinary proceeding, in which the king shewed his wisdom, and preserved a proper dignity.

When he first appeared in the senate, after his abdication, he addressed the members in the following manner:

"I appear again in this place, penetrated with the most lively acknowledgment at its having pleased the Divine Providence, who directs all things, that I should resume the government of my kingdom, and with the more satisfaction,

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tion, as the convocation of the states gives me hopes of being able to relieve our faithful subjects from their misery. I will not undertake to answer what the senators have alleged against my resolution, since it is all buried in oblivion by the convocation of the states. I shall demonstrate to the states the utility and the necessity of my resolution, for the maintenance of the liberty and justice of the nation. My conscience does not in the least reproach me in all this; what has lately happened, will, perhaps, be alone sufficient to evince the justice of my designs. I am moreover fully persuaded, that all I have done will be approved, not only at present, but in future."

The 19th of February following, was fixed for the opening of the diet; and in the mean time, the king gave orders that the peasants should be treated with lenity on account of the hardships they had suffered, and that the corn and cattle should not be seized by the revenue officers, of such as appeared unable to pay the taxes levied upon them—Thus ended this singular and important affair; the particulars of which, we thought proper to relate in this place; not only as an interesting circumstance in history, but as necessary to connect our future accounts of this kingdom the more properly together.

During the course of the present year the affairs of Sweden, have afforded very few historical materials, except the following.—On the 10th of January, a tumult happened at the Town-house at Stockholm, on account of the ma-

gistrates having fixed the 14th day of the same month for the nomination of the electors. This gave umbrage to one of the two parties, because many of the inhabitants, who have right of suffrage, were prevented by their private affairs from attending in town that day. However, the magistrates soon settled peace by appointing a new day.—Towards the latter end of this month, the king caused a declaration to be inserted in the portocol of the senate, declaring his unwillingness to consent that the approaching extraordinary assembly of the states, should be held at Norkioeping; but all the senators, except four, gave it as their final opinion, that, as the states at the last diet, had appointed that city for their next assembly, it was absolutely necessary to hold that resolution; which accordingly took place.

In the month of May, the secret committee, drew up twenty-four articles of accusation against the senators, who were enjoined to answer them in the space of forty-eight hours. Three of these articles related to their opposition to the convocation of the states; on the declaration which they made to the different colleges in the month of December 1768, during the abdication of the crown, "That the kingdom might be governed by the senate alone without a king;" and their upholding the same principle, in separating this change.—The committee delivered their opinion on the affair to the assembly of the states; and in virtue of a resolution of the diet, all the senators, except two, were deprived of

of that dignity, and condemned to pay the extraordinary expences incurred by convening the states at any other place than Stockholm. — On the 2d of November, the estates held a plenum, in which the four orders had some very warm disputes on the new system of ordonnances; and the question, whether it would be proper to make any innovations in the constitution of the kingdom. The debates on this last subject were carried to such a length, that fifty of the deputies left the assembly without voting. — Upon the whole, the king has been happily relieved this year, by the states from the power and tyranny of the senate and the secret council, as their proceedings have been disavowed; so that the affairs of this kingdom have taken a new and very different turn from what was expected at the close of the last year: but no material alteration has been made in the Fundamentals of the government. Neither has the French faction succeeded in its endeavours to embroil Russia in the affairs of Sweden.

The late meeting of the states has, undoubtedly, secured several very important points in the king's favour; yet, the sufferings of the people have not been sufficiently redressed; so that, the tranquillity of the kingdom does not seem to be settled on a very permanent basis; especially, as it may be conjectured with some degree of probability, that the opposition made to the power of the senate, will soon rekindle a flame, which, it is to be feared, will not easily be extinguished.

SECTION II. STATE of RUSSIA.

WITHIN the space of half a century, Russia is become a very great and formidable power, though before, but little regarded in the general system of continental affairs. Her imperial majesty has the happiness of beholding herself universally beloved and revered by her subjects; at the same time, that she stands in the highest point of estimation and respect among the neighbouring powers of Europe. Her wisdom and sagacity are sufficiently evident, in the great attention she has shewn to the extent, internal strength, and general interest of her dominions: and her talents for legislation are indisputably manifest, by that noble code of laws, she so lately established for the security of the civil rights, and good government of the people; in which particular it must be acknowledged she has displayed the inherent virtues of her illustrious predecessor, Peter the Great.

The extent of the Russian dominions, is so prodigious, as not to be easily ascertained; notwithstanding which, the whole empire is supposed to contain little more than seven millions of inhabitants. During the late reigns, the Russians have greatly improved the state of agriculture; and abating their former sloth and ignorance, been tempted to improve the arts of literature, polity, and commercial intercourse: which has effected a change in their manners and morals.

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In the present reign, Russia has made a rapid progress towards wealth and fame. The whole empire is astonishingly improved and civilized; and it is much to be wished, that the public revenues were more considerable than they are, the better to enable the present empress to extend those noble plans she seems to have in view. The advantages unavoidably arising from commercial improvements, have engaged much of her attention, as the most probable means of assisting her in carrying those schemes into execution, for which reason, she has particularly attached herself to Great Britain. And it seems to be certain, that the vast resources of trade which might be opened towards Persia and the Caspian Sea, would prove of singular advantage to both nations, especially as the commercial interests of the Russian empire would always be secure under the protection of the maritime power of Great Britain.

The war between the Russians and the Turks seems to be so involved with the affairs of Poland, as to belong most properly to the account of that kingdom, under which we propose to consider it; and shall only observe in this place, that though a zeal for the interests of religion may have stimulated the empress of Russia to the part she has taken in the support of the Dissidents, and protection of the king of Poland, whom she raised to the throne by her powerful interposition; yet there is great reason to imagine, that the view of reviving some dormant claims towards Lithuania has not been neglected: as on the other hand, the Grand Signior's espousing the

cause of the confederates, has not been divested of interested views respecting the future acquisition of Podolia, and other countries, in order to open a passage to Cracow and Warsaw, whenever occasion or opportunity renders it expedient: but it must be confessed, that all speculations of this kind, however plausible, are in their nature extremely uncertain.

Notwithstanding what has been observed, we acknowledge that the part Russia has taken in the affairs of Poland, is not only generous but warrantable, were it not visible that the tumultuous disposition of the Poles, and their bigotted attachment to civil and religious prepossessions of the worst tendency, render it necessary to employ more force than could be wished, or than may be compatible with the different interests of the two states, or the calls of humanity.

SECTION III.

STATE of POLAND, with a View of the present War between the Turks and Russians.

THE present situation of Poland is truly deplorable, that country having been for some time the theatre of contention, and its domestic tranquillity most injuriously disturbed, by the complication of a civil, religious, and foreign war. In every quarter of the kingdom, we behold the most horrid scenes of devastation, cruelty, and carnage; which, as things are now circumstanced, appear to be irresistible, and consequently without the hope of redress. We see also,

also, a good and virtuous monarch, whose sensibility and humanity naturally incline him to govern his people with justice and moderation, exposed to the alternate jealousy of contending parties, and reduced to the heart-wounding necessity of being a silent spectator of the ruin of his country. And while it is inhumanly deluged with the blood of his subjects, he has the mortification to behold the malady, without being able to close the wound. He sees himself unable to avoid maintaining the balance equally in this critical situation, though he is certain it must prove the destruction of his consequence and power. And lastly, under the weight of so many difficulties, he is obliged to stand indebted to the authors of his calamity for his personal protection.

Having given a general sketch of the present state of this unhappy country, it will be necessary to have a retrospect to the causes and motives that have contributed to produce those unfortunate events just recited.

The inhabitants of Poland were converted to the Christian religion according to the church of Rome, between the ninth and tenth centuries, at which time the kingdom was of a very small extent; but being surrounded by many independent provinces (where the religion of the Greek church began to make its way) they in process of time became one with Poland, from the right of succession, marriage, conquest, or compact: upon which accessions, each were permitted to observe their own modes of religious worship. And as the inhabitants of the provinces united to Poland, in consequence

of the Jagellonic succession, were also of the religion of the Greek church, the number and strength of those of the Romish persuasion was greatly inferior. For a time the difference of opinion in respect to religion, was not productive of any civil dissensions; however, as the reformation began very early to make a rapid progress in Poland, it was wisely imagined, that disputes would arise which might disturb the public tranquillity; to prevent which, a law was passed by Sigismund Augustus, at the diet of Vilna in the year 1563, whereby it was declared, that all those of the equestrian and noble orders, whether of Russian or Lithuanian extraction, should have claim to, and enjoy all the privileges and liberties to which they were naturally intitled by their rank and nobility; and that none should be excluded from the dignities of the senate and crown on account of religious differences, provided they professed Christianity. This law was afterwards further established at the diet of Grodno, in the year 1568, by letters of confirmation, wherein it was particularly expressed, "of whatever Christian communion or confession soever he be." This was done with design, to prevent any false construction on the original words, provided he be a "Christian," by some prevailing denomination of Christians in prejudice to the rest.

The constitution of Poland underwent a total change on the death of Sigismund, and assumed the form of a republic. The nobility became masters of the legislative authority, which before had been almost totally invested in the prerogative

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prerogatives of the king. At a convention of the first diet of the republic, held by the grand marshal Firley, who was a protestant, the model of the present was formed, the crown made elective, and a perpetual peace betwixt the Roman Catholics, Greeks, and Reformists, established as a fundamental law. This toleration secured to each communion the ecclesiastical properties and revenues belonging to it, and promised to prevent all disputes between them in matters of religion; and this law ought to have been considered as indisputable, having been solemnly confirmed in all the public acts, constitutions and *pacta conventa*; notwithstanding which, when the Roman Catholics had gained a manifest superiority after the death of Sigismund the Third, they began to infringe it, though they did not attempt to violate it openly. However, they soon withdrew the veil; and discovered their intentions by their signatures, "*salvis juribus ecclesiæ Romanæ Catholicæ*,"—saving the rights of the Roman Catholic church—This was opposed by the dissidents*, by subscribing on theirs, "*salve pace inter Dissidentes*,"—saving the peace of the Dissidents.

It is worthy observation, that the words of the law just mentioned, are very clear and particular, "*Nos qui sumus Dissidentes in religione*,"—we who differ in religious things. And it is therein strongly expressed, "by the obligations of our oath, our faith,

our honour, and our consciences, we engage in our own names, and in the names of our successors for ever, to preserve peace among the dissidents in religion; to shed no blood, nor to inflict on any one the penalties of confiscation of goods, defamation, imprisonment, or exile, on account of the difference of our faith and rites in our churches; except, if any one should undertake, for the above reason to shed the blood of his fellow citizens, we should all be obliged to oppose him, even though he should shelter himself under the pretext of a decree, or any other judicial proceeding."

This was a noble law, considering the age in which it was passed, and it might have been expected, that as it was sanctified by the most solemn acts, nothing less than an utter subversion of the constitution could have produced a violation of it. Yet it is no less strange than true, that it has been manifestly broken through, even under the sanction of that very law itself; by which means, three of the religions which formed the original compact, have been spoiled of their rights, liberties, and immunities, by the fourth. During the reign of Sigismund the Third, who was violently bigotted to the Roman Catholic religion, upwards of one hundred churches belonging to the dissidents were demolished. This may surprise the reader, but the wonder will cease when he is informed, that the king's zeal led him to neglect the interest of his kingdom, in order

* In the infancy of the republic, the term Dissidents equally comprehended the Greeks, Catholics, Reformed, and Lutherans.

to make profelytes, in which he met with great success, holding forth in one hand honours and preferments, and in the other the sword of persecution, so that every nobleman who embraced the Romish persuasion, immediately demolished all the churches of the dissidents that were built upon their estates. By this means, the number of the dissidents was greatly decreased, and at length they were banished the senate.

As the plan of our work will not allow us to enumerate the particulars of every act of oppression against the dissidents by the Catholics, we shall pass on to the election of Augustus the Third, and the diet which succeeded to the troubles upon that accession in the year 1736. The dissidents expected redress from this diet, but, on the contrary, met with a deeper wound than ever. By this diet they were excluded from all public offices, and left without either the means or hopes of redress, as it was decreed, that every attempt to implore the interposition or assistance of the foreign powers, should be deemed an act of treason, though those very powers were the guaranties of the treaty of Olivia. The Protestant country-deputies of Polish Prussia protested against these proceedings at the diet, but without effect, nor was their protest admitted in any of the judicial courts, which was a breach of the laws, exclusive of a violence to the dissidents; so that from this time their affairs became more involved, and their troubles and oppressions increased daily.

The diet of 1766 being very unsatisfactory to the neighbouring

powers, applications were by them made in favour of the dissidents; and when the diet broke up, their answers declared, that they should be supported in their privileges according to the constitutions passed in 1717, 1736, and 1764, and that the bishops should take their religious griefs into consideration. This was an evasive answer, unworthy the representatives of a great kingdom; and in fact, only enforcing those three violent laws which had been so destructive to their rights and liberties, and referring them to their most implacable enemies for a redress of their grievances.

The fallacy of this declaration was seen by the powers to whom it was addressed, and the empress of Russia first shewed her disapprobation of it. The dissidents finding that moderation and submission only increased their troubles under the prevailing party, who saw that their own strength and importance depended on the destruction of the other, began to form confederacies in the different parts of the kingdom for their mutual safety and defence. This bold attempt will admit of some excuse, if we consider the hardships they had endured, the immediate injuries they experienced, and the destruction which seemed preparing for them. From this period we may trace the cause of the present calamities in Poland, and indeed the origin of the war now subsisting between the Russian and Ottoman empires.

On the 10th of March 1767, the nobles and citizens of the Greek communion, and the two evangelical confessions in the great dutchy of Lithuania, entered into the

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the first confederacy at Sluck; which act was signed by the major part of the nobility, who appointed general Grabowski to be their marshal, with a counsel of assistance. And on the 26th of the same month, the nobility of Poland formed another confederacy at Thorn, who fixed upon general Goltze for their marshal, and appointed a council of twenty-four members to assist him. This act was signed by the marshal and three hundred and eighty members; among whom, were many Roman Catholics. The appointment of this confederacy seems to have been so satisfactory, that the cities of Thorn, Elbing, and Dantzic, published an act of accession to it. It is worthy to be remarked in this place, that the dissidents in all their acts of confederacy, manifestoes, &c. proceeded with great moderation, and spoke of their sufferings in a language free from personal investives against their persecutors, at the same time paying great reverence to the Roman Catholic religion; nor is any thing more remarkable than the regard and obedience they express for the king and the republic. In short, through the whole tenor of their writings, their conduct plainly proves, that their desire was to settle peace and establish security.

No sooner were these confederacies formed, but the empress of Russia sent a very considerable reinforcement to her troops then in Poland, and published a declaration, in which she repeated the former remonstrances on the conduct of the diet, and signified her approbation of the general confederacies, promising them in the

strongest terms her assistance and protection; at the same time declaring, she should consider those as her enemies who should attempt to injure or molest them either in their persons or estates; for the protection of which, her troops had received proper orders. A declaration also from the king of Prussia, was delivered by the Prussian minister to the king and republic, in which that monarch makes some very severe strictures on the declaration of the diet to the foreign ministers, and complains of the little attention paid to his friendly representations upon this interesting and important subject. He also declares his approbation of the confederacies, and his resolution of joining the empress of Russia in protecting and procuring the just rights of the dissidents. The courts of England, Sweden, and Denmark, made declarations to the same effect, but Russia proved the most active in their favour.

Soon after this, the most considerable part of the Roman Catholic nobility in the kingdom followed the example of the dissidents, and entered into confederacies, urged by their various discontents, and in opposition to some political innovations. These were distinguished from the dissidents by the title of Malecontents; notwithstanding which, they acknowledged their approbation of the claims of the dissidents, and declared their resolution of having them restored.

While things were in this situation, prince Charles de Radzivil returned to Poland, which he had been obliged to quit, with a sequestration of his estates, for opposing

posing the election of the present king. This was a favourable opening for him; the people received him with demonstrations of joy. He was immediately declared marshal of the general confederacy of the malecontents, and invested with great powers. His first step was to prescribe a new oath of fidelity to the king, and another to the general confederacy, in which the rights of the dissidents were included, with the security of the Roman Catholic religion. The officers of the civil and military departments were obliged to take this oath, or relinquish their places, which was done by many, but the prince primate took it voluntarily, with many of the bishops. However unpleasing these proceedings were to the king, he was obliged to remain a silent spectator, and condescended to grant an audience to prince Radzivil, which lasted only a few moments; but it is said his majesty preserved great coolness and command of temper, not easily supported under such circumstances.

The restoration of peace to the republic seemed only to be effected by the summoning of an extraordinary diet, which was accordingly solicited by all parties. The king readily consenting to it, orders were issued out for that purpose. The dietines were very tumultuous in many places, and did considerable mischief. Some of the nobility asserted, that they made a part of the free people, and exclaimed with great violence against foreign auxiliaries, and their pretences of giving assistance, while they ruled with despotic power. The Russian officers who all attended the dietines were in-

sulted at most places; however, those of the nobility who were most refractory, were sufficiently punished by the Russian troops, who were sent to live upon their estates at free-quarters. So that the diet was little more than a form, and the empress of Russia evidently the only ruling power in Poland.

On the 25th of September, the tribunal of the general confederacy was opened with great pomp and solemnity in the palace of prince Radzivil, where the reunion of the confederacy of the dissidents and the general confederacy of the malecontents was publicly declared. And the long wished for diet met at Warsaw on the 5th of October. It was opened by the king, who addressed the assembly in the most pathetic manner, and recommended moderation and concord to the members. The bishop of Cracow spoke next, and in the same violent manner as he had done the year before, inveighed against the pretensions of the dissidents, and reminded the king in the most positive terms of the oath he had taken at his election to support the catholic faith; concluding with observing to his majesty, that it was not sufficient he should only bear the title of an orthodox prince, but that he really should be one. The business of the diet this day concluded with appointing prince Radzivil marshal, without proceeding to the form of election. The next day the affairs of the dissidents were canvassed with great violence, for which reason the prince adjourned the diet to the 12th, with a view that the interval might abate the warmth which then shewed itself, and

and afford the prospect of treating these things with more moderation. To this end a committee was appointed of the three orders of the state, to whom a power was given finally to conclude all matters respecting the dissidents; but this laudable scheme proved ineffectual, for at the third meeting of the diet, the disputes arose to a greater height than before.

The bishops of Cracovia, Kiovia, many other prelates, and some of the magnates, not only exclaimed against the pretensions of the dissidents with still greater violence, but refused their consent to the establishing a commission with full power to hold any conference with the Russian ambassador upon that subject. At length, the disputes became so very violent, that the marshal thought it necessary to prorogue the diet once more, which was accordingly done to the 16th.

The progress of the Russian troops in Poland was now so considerable, as to surround and intercept the whole kingdom. They invested Warsaw so closely, as not only to be in possession of all the avenues leading to it, but to guard them with the strictest attention. Some detachments of troops the day after this tumultuous diet, seized the bishops of Cracow, Kiovia, and count Rzewuski, the waywode of Cracovia, with his son, and some others of the deputies, whom they carried off as prisoners. This affair caused a general consternation, because nobody knew at first where these grandees were carried to, or what was to be their fate. This step alarmed and intimidated some, at the same time that it inflamed others.

It was imagined this proceeding arose from the virulence and unguarded expressions made use of by these grandees, in mentioning the great powers interesting in favour of the dissidents, for which they were blamed by some; while others declared, that every deputy at the diet ought to deliver his sentiments with freedom; and that if he spoke too boldly, or exceeded the bounds of decency respecting the foreign powers, the judicial procedure against him belonged only to the tribunal of the kingdom. The king in this situation was greatly to be pitied, as it seemed to require the greatest wisdom and sagacity to guard against the dangers that surrounded him on every side, and appeared to increase daily from the distractions of the diet.—In this precarious state of things, the king is said to have expressed himself at a conference in the following manner:

“ There is little knowledge required to govern a vessel when the winds are favourable. A skilful pilot should know how to withstand the storm without quitting the helm. I have several times entertained the design (as I still do) of abdicating the crown, the burden of which I feel; but that my love for my country made me alter my resolution. You ought all, gentlemen, to consider the melancholy circumstances which you have drawn upon us. I have constantly employed all my endeavours for the good of the state, but few among you have assisted me with your support; and I find myself abandoned by the greater part; yet I can assure you, that if I had taken the course of abandoning you in my turn, you would

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have found yourselves in a miserable situation.

The diet met again on the 16th, and was as tumultuous as ever, notwithstanding many of the most turbulent members were absent. The king and some of the nobles made very pathetic and conciliating speeches, with a view to calm the violence of the debates, but all proved ineffectual; however, on the following day, after a very long consultation, a commission was appointed to settle the affairs of the dissidents. The meetings of this commission were held at the Russian ambassador's house. The number of the members was at first but fourteen, but after some time increased to near sixty; and that they might have sufficient time to examine into this important subject, the diet was prorogued to the first of February. On the 20th of November, the commissioners, after many meetings, signed their resolutions which were sent to Moscow for the approbation of the empress.—During these transactions, repeated applications were made for the enlargement of the grandees who were seized by the Russian troops, but without effect. The empress gave for answer, that as those nobles were possessed with so turbulent a spirit, it would be dangerous to set them at full liberty; lest they should again attempt to destroy that peace and tranquility she was endeavouring to restore to the republic; however, it was declared, that they were not close prisoners, but permitted to be at large under the care of a detachment at Wilna.

The most material of the resolutions of the grand commission mentioned above, are as follow :

—That the king should enjoy a yearly pension of one million and a half of florins, to be paid by the treasury. That prince Radzivil should have an annual pension of six hundred thousand florins, by way of indemnification for his losses, and for three millions which the republic owed to his family. That the treasurer of the crown, who had hitherto enjoyed a pension of one hundred and twenty thousand florins, should have it augmented to two hundred thousand; that the great treasurer of Lithuania should have an augmentation of forty thousand florins to his yearly appointments; count Fleming, the bishop of Wilna, and some others, were also to come in for considerable sums; and it was ordered that the sum of twelve thousand Polish ducats should be granted as a yearly appendage, or portion, to the two princes of Saxony. The revenues of the country were thus, under a Russian direction, disposed of for the support of a Russian interest, and for enabling the chiefs of that faction to stand upon a level with the throne.—Among other matters of great moment that were transacted by the high commission, it was agreed to confirm a treaty very advantageous to Russia with respect to commerce, which had been passed between the two nations in the year 1686. A singular circumstance in this decree, and one which marks the spirit of the whole proceeding is, that the treaty is for the future to be understood and received in the form in which it exists in the archives of the Russian empire, and not as it was published and hitherto received in Poland. It was also resolved

solved by the commission, to suppress the jurisdiction of the nunciature, and that instead thereof, a synod, or ecclesiastical council should be erected, of which the primate was to be president. That this tribunal should decide as the dernier resort, of all such ecclesiastical causes as had been hitherto carried to the court of Rome, or laid before the nuncio from that court residing there. That the tax on pope's bulls should be abolished, or at least reduced, and that a new regulation should be made concerning the tythes. A minister plenipotentiary was also to be sent to Rome, to inform the pope of their motives of re-establishing the dissidents in their ancient rights, and to desire his holiness to withdraw his nuncio, and not to send any more to Poland, but to invest the prince primate with the characters of hereditary legate.

While the high commission was employed in this manner, a brief was delivered to the king, and another to the primate, by the pope's nuncio; in the brief to the king it was said, that he ought rather to abdicate the crown, than to sign things that were so prejudicial to the Roman Catholic religion. The nuncio also addressed a brief to the bishops; and he delivered on the part of his holiness, a manifesto to the great chancellor, in which he informed all those who may subscribe to any articles of that nature, that they should be excommunicated. The marshal of the confederacy of Lithuania also entered a protest against all the acts of the commissioners, and against every thing that was now transacting, or that should be

transacted under the influence of foreign arms. This protest also contained many severe investives against the Russians, and animated upon their conduct in general in the bitterest terms. But previous to the marshal's taking these steps, he had the precaution to sell all his estates, and immediately after quitted the country and retired to Rome, to shelter himself from all pursuits.

On the 1st of February 1768, the diet met again, and was adjourned to the 20th, during which time the grand commission proceeded with the utmost expedition, assuming the whole legislative authority of the kingdom. They found great opposition to that part of their commission which respected the finances, as the clergy refused to part with any more of their revenues towards the public expences. However, the commissioners settled the public contributions at twenty-three millions of Polish florins annually, and issued an order for the coinage of one million of silver, and twelve millions of copper. All the treaties between the republic, the empire of Russia, and the king of Russia, were renewed and confirmed, and the Empress of Russia was declared, and continued guarantee of the rights and privileges of the Polish nation. The Russian merchants were to be exempted from the payment of any particular duties established in Poland, but were to be subject to the customs of transit appertaining to the republic. By the above-mentioned treaty of commerce, and by these new regulations, Russia took possession of the whole commerce, as before she had done

of the whole government of Poland.

After two more adjournments, the diet finally met, attended by a body of Russian troops to prevent disorder. The states had little more to do than to ratify the articles passed by the grand commission. And it was almost unanimously agreed, that not only such resolutions as the commissioners had privately concluded amongst themselves, but those also which they had jointly passed with the Russian Ambassador, should be confirmed and ratified. And the treaty they had entered into with the ambassador respecting the affairs of the dissidents, the general interests of the state, &c. was declared a fundamental law and perpetual constitution. The general confederacy of the states, and of the dissidents were now at an end, and the business of the assembly being finished, the king closed the diet on the 5th of March.

It was now to be expected, that the affairs of Poland were securely settled and the tranquility of the kingdom restored; but, alas, misery had not yet taken her flight from this unhappy country, for scarcely were the members of the diet arrived at their respective abodes, before a confederacy was formed in the province of Podolia, headed by several of the magnates and persons of the first distinction. They appointed M. Krasinski their marshal, and in order to stimulate the peasants to join them, they were offered money and arms. The city of Bar was fixed on for their head-quarters, and the motto on their standards "To conquer or die; to which they afterwards added, "*Pro religione et liberate,*

for religion and liberty." Thus, the pleasing prospect of peace was destroyed, and without the intervention of any act that could account for it, the whole nation again in confusion.

The Russians deceived by the fairness of appearances, and by the strenuous remonstrances of the Porte, were just going to withdraw their forces out of the kingdom; and dispatches were received at this very time from Constantinople, which would have quickened their departure. It may easily be judged from what has since appeared, what the consequences would have been, if the confederates had temper or prudence to have waited for this event. In that case, the whole nation would have been up in arms before the Russians could have returned; so that, instead of destroying petty disunited parties, and crushing every confederacy in its infancy, they would then have met with numerous and powerful bodies of men ready to encounter them, and who, if they did fall in the defence of their country, would at least have the satisfaction of not dying wholly unrevenged.

New confederacies were now formed in most parts of the kingdom, and scarce a day passed without skirmishes between some of these and the Russians, in which the latter generally came off victorious, so that whole towns and cities were plundered and destroyed, and the inhabitants either massacred, or totally ruined by the loss of their property and effects; thus, the whole country exhibited a dreadful spectacle, as the cruelties, which from the beginning, had been practised on both sides, had extinguished all the feelings

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of humanity, and rendered the heart callous against every motion of compassion or mercy. The fields were covered with the unburied dead, whose bodies tainted the air, and made the country not only unhealthy but loathsome. Every meeting of the nobility was attended with bloodshed, and the sabre was the result of all their debates. The universalia, issued on the 10th of June for a general diet, was productive of no good effect; most of the dietines broke up in disorder; many of the nobility refused to attend them, and consequently very few deputies were elected. The poor dissidents were every where plundered and treated with the greatest cruelty, and there was scarce a Protestant gentleman in the two provinces of Great and Little Poland whose estate was not pillaged and his houses destroyed. And to add to the general confusion, most of the Polish troops either refused to fight the confederates when they met, or joined them, which plainly shewed the general sense of the people respecting the affairs of the kingdom, as also their hatred to the Russians.

At this time, a particular circumstance happened that rendered the conduct of the Porte highly alarming to the Russians. The confederacy of Halics under the staroste Potocki, being attacked by col. Weissman, and so totally defeated, that the marshal with his countess and some particular friends, were obliged to make their escape in an open boat to the Turkish side of the Neister: the colonel crossed the Neister and pursued the routed confederates a considerable way within the Turkish

territories in Moldavia; on which the basha who commanded in that neighbourhood, sent him word, that he acted contrary to treaty by entering with an armed force into the Ottoman territories; that he had already informed the Porte of it, and that he now cautioned him not to advance any farther, as he would be under a necessity of drawing out his forces against him. The Russian officer pleaded ignorance of the limits, and retired: the staroste Potocki made the best use of this protection; and his scattered party having by this means found an opportunity to rejoin him, he took a circuit through a great part of Moldavia and the territory of Choczim, recrossed the Neister, and suddenly attacked in the rear, and defeated a part of those Russians who had been in pursuit of him, after which he safely joined the confederates of Bar.

Soon after this, the designs of the Porte became more apparent, by the protection and shelter afforded by it to the confederates; in consequence of which, great bodies of Russian troops began to file off towards the frontiers of Turkey, while new ones arrived every day in the kingdom. Very considerable bodies of Tartars now appeared upon the frontiers, and a Turkish army of no small force assembled between Choczim, Bender, and Oczakow. The Russians also formed a line of troops along the Turkish frontiers of Poland as well as their own country. At this time the Tartars and confederates of Moldavia amounted to upwards of eight thousand. They attempted some incursions across the Neister, but were always re-

pulsed by the Russian troops, and obliged to retire back again.—The season was now too far advanced for any military operation of consequence to take place between the contending parties, nor was either of them sufficiently prepared for such an undertaking. It was expected that the departure of the Russian troops to the frontiers would have afforded some little repose to the country of Poland, but it did not prove so; for no sooner were they drawn off, than those confederacies they had so long depressed, immediately lifted up their heads and resumed their wonted licentiousness, treating the dissidents with the most horrid cruelties, so that the kingdom suffered a very considerable depopulation, exclusive of the havock made by the sword; the peasants, in great numbers, quitted their habitations, and either fled the country or turned robbers; by which means, they increased the general calamity; and the bulk of the nobility, and indeed numbers of persons of all ranks, fled for refuge to the neighbouring countries.

Having traced the troubles of Poland from their origin to the close of the last year, with a view of giving our readers a distinct idea of the history of this distressed country, little more remains to be observed here, as the affairs of this kingdom, during the course of the present year, have not been very fruitful of historical events, notwithstanding they are in the utmost confusion; nor is it probable, that any material alteration can happen while the several confederacies exist. The Russian troops of observation exert all their

endeavours to demolish their different leagues; but their efforts are constantly to be renewed, for no sooner is one dispersed than another is formed, so that the situation of the inhabitants is deplorable. But there is some reason to imagine the misunderstanding that prevails at present amongst the confederates, will operate more powerfully towards a reconciliation and restoration of public tranquillity than the force of arms.

In the midst of these intestine broils, this miserable state is now become the seat of a war between the two great powers of Turkey and Russia, which may be considered as an additional burthen to its calamities. The embarrassment of the king exceeds the power of description! We know of very few instances in the history of any country, where a monarch who sought to promote the interest and happiness of his people, has been so critically and unfortunately circumstanced. If he declares for Russia, to whom he himself is most obliged, the resentment of the Ottoman empire must be the result; and to observe a neutrality, is to behold two foreign nations waging war in the very heart of a kingdom, the government of which is committed to his care.

A concise and distinct View of the present War between the Turks and Russians.

WE have already apprised our readers, that as the interposition of the empress of Russia

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ssia in the affairs of Poland, had been productive of a war betwixt that empire and the Ottoman Porte, we should consider it as an appendage to our account of Poland, with which it is in some respects connected.

Notwithstanding the violation of the Ottoman territory by the Russian troops was adjusted, being a step disavowed by the empress, and the Porte had declared that their intentions were of a pacific nature; the divan shortly after, not only expressed their disapprobation of the conduct of the Russian troops in Poland, but pretended to take umbrage at the continuance of those troops, and demanded of the Russian ambassador at the Porte, that the Empress should withdraw her troops from that kingdom. But the true motive of this conduct with regard to Russia, seems to have had its rise from the offers made by the principal confederacies in Poland to the Grand Signior, of submitting themselves to him, on the same footing as the Wallachians and Moldavians; who, finding their schemes of insurrection impracticable, and dreading the consequences of their rebellion, chose rather to yield themselves up to a foreign power. This circumstance will sufficiently shew the danger and fatal effects ever attending on national rebellions, from what cause soever they take their rise.

A grand council was held at Constantinople the 3d of October 1768, at which the ministers of the Porte, and officers of the militia assisted. Previous to the holding this council, the Russian resident was requested to attend at the gate

of the Seraglio at six in the morning, from whence he was introduced to an audience of the grand vizir; the conversation was but short, though very animated; and the Russian resident, seeming not satisfied with the demands made from him, he was ordered to withdraw to a separate apartment, and wait the issue of the resolution of the Porte. After the report was made to the grand Signior of what had passed, his highness ordered the Russian minister to be sent to the castle of the Seven Towers; to which place he was actually conducted about four in the afternoon, together with his secretary, three of his dragomans, and some of his domestics. And the sieur Delavachow, who was furnished with credentials to the Porte, and the intended successor of the Russian resident in case of his demise, was also confined in the same castle.

On the 8th of October, the Porte declared war against Russia, of which notice was sent to the king and republic of Poland.—It seems to be pretty certain, that Russia foresaw a war would be the consequence of her conduct in Poland; an event, which the repeated remonstrances of the Porte, and the anxiety shewn at the pursuit of those measures, sufficiently indicated: so that she was properly prepared for it. And, indeed, if we compare their respective extent of countries, whereby some computation may be made of their strength, it will appear, that they are not so unequally matched as may be imagined. Time only must shew the truth of this conjecture; however, the court of Russia betrayed no symptoms of weakness or

meaness in endeavouring to avoid it. On the contrary, it shewed great dignity and firmness, upon the arrest of its minister at Constantinople; upon which occasion it loudly justified his conduct, and applauded his spirit, in not making any humiliating concessions, or submitting to conditions, that were derogatory to the honour and glory of the empire; as will appear by the following declaration.—

The Declaration of the Imperial Court of Russia to the Courts of Europe, upon the Arrest of its Minister, Resident at Constantinople.

“HER imperial majesty, in taking a part in the transactions of the republic of Poland, as humanity on one side, and the obligations of her crown on the other, had prompted her, was no less careful to conduct herself in such a manner as not to give any umbrage to a jealous and powerful neighbour; every part of her conduct was public; and she had likewise a particular attention to communicate in confidence to the Ottoman Porte her resolutions upon every step she took, and the conduct she intended to observe, till the peace and tranquillity of that kingdom was entirely re-established. But the enemies to the peace of these two empires were not wanting to blacken, at the Porte, all the actions of her imperial majesty, and to sow there the seeds of discord by the most false imputations. The Porte, restrained by the upright conduct the court of Russia continued to maintain towards them, listened, but it was with caution, to the calumny that was spread. Some attention to

the affairs of Poland, and an impartial examination of what Russia had done, compared with the overtures made by that court at the Porte, had dispelled all suspicion, and the public tranquillity seemed to be no more threatened. The common enemies, however, repeated their insinuations with more rage and audacity than ever, to impose upon the credulity of the Turkish nation, and infused a spirit of discontent among them, which called for the notice of government; for it had forced its way even into the Seraglio. The change in the ministry brought about by these events, soon produced a revolution in the system of peace, equally dear to both nations. The new vizir, upon his advancement, immediately sent for Mr. Oberf-kow, her imperial majesty's resident at the Porte, and, after having caused to be read in his presence a declaration full of heavy charges against his court, part of which had already been invalidated by the most fair and candid explanations, and others that had never existed, or were ever thought of, the vizir pressed him to sign immediately, under the guarantee of the allies of his sovereign, some very offensive conditions, in regard to which there never had been made the least proposal during the whole course of the operations in Poland. These conditions, very derogatory to the honour and glory of an empress accustomed to receive no law, proposed in a tone and form repugnant to the freedom of negotiation adopted by every power, were attended with the alternative of an immediate rupture of the perpetual peace between the two empires. The Rus-

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sian minister, confident of the upright intentions of his court, and conscious of the probity of his own conduct, as having fulfilled the duties of a long ministry, was incapable of unworthily subjecting his court and his own character to a humiliating engagement, and which would have exceeded the power and commission of any minister, let them be ever so extensive; he gave, therefore, a positive refusal, as became his honour and his duty: and the resolution of the divan, which followed immediately after, was to arrest him, and part of his retinue, and carry him to the castle of the Seven Towers.—It would be needless for the imperial court of Russia to dwell any longer upon this event, or to enter here into an examination of it. The fact speaks for itself. The honour and glory of her imperial majesty,—the regard to her empire, point out the path it is right for her to take. Considering in the justness of her cause, she appeals to all Christian courts on the situation she finds herself in with regard to the common enemy of Christianity, certain as she is, that her conduct will meet with equal approbation from each of them, and that she shall have the advantage to join to the Divine protection, the just assistance of her friends, and the good wishes of all Christendom.”

Manifesto of the Grand Signior, concerning the War declared by his Highness against the Empress of Russia, delivered the 30th of October, 1768, to the foreign Ministers residing at Constantinople.

“IT may clearly be seen by what follows, that the sublime

Porte has strictly observed the articles of the peace, established between his empire and the court of Russia, who, on the contrary, has infringed them in many instances.

“The court of Russia, against the faith of treaties, has not desisted from building various fortresses on the frontiers of the two states, and has provided them with troops and ammunition.

“In the year 1177, (or 1763), on the death of Augustus the third, king of Poland, the republic of Poland intending, according to the system of the Polish liberty, to proceed to the election of a king, the court of Russia set up for king a private Polish officer, in whose family there had never been any king, and to whom royalty was not becoming; and has, by siding with this king, intruded on, and traversed against the will of the republic, all the affairs of the Poles. The Porte having given notice of this to the Russian resident, he declared that the republic of Poland having required a certain number of troops to protect its own liberty, six thousand horse and a thousand Cossacks were granted for that purpose, who had neither cannon nor ammunition with them, and were to be under the command of the republic, and that there was not a single Russian soldier above that number in Poland. Yet, when he was asked, some time after, why the court of Russia had sent more troops into Poland; and why violence had been used on the election of Poniatowski, son of one of the grandees of Poland, the said resident assured, by a writing signed with his hand, that his court had not declared

declared for any person, nor had ever made use of violent means for the election of any one whatsoever. Notwithstanding this assurance and declaration, the court of Russia has been continually sending troops, cannon, and ammunition under the command of its own generals, who continued to attack the Polish liberty, and put to death those who refused to submit to the person that themselves had not elected for their king, and who was not the son of a king; stripping them, with clamour and violence, of their goods and estates. Such a conduct being productive of confusion in the good order of the sublime Porte, he was given to understand, that, according to the tenor of the articles of the old and new imperial capitulations, the court of Russia must order her troops to evacuate Poland; this, the said resident promised by several memorials signed; but this promise has not been fulfilled. In the mean time the sublime Porte received advice that some Russian troops had been sent to Balta (one of the musselman frontiers), with some artillery, and had, unexpectedly, attacked the musselmans, and massacred upwards of a thousand persons, men, women and children.

“ The sublime Porte having again demanded satisfaction from the court of Russia for this outrage, which, against the tenor of treaties, had been committed with artillery; and the khan of Crimea having also demanded satisfaction for the same; the said court denied the fact, alledging that the Haydamacks had done some damage, but that care would be taken to punish them, although it

is notorious that the Haydamacks never make use of cannon nor bombs in their irruptions. The sublime Porte, notwithstanding, still persisted in requiring satisfaction for such a conduct, and still demanded the reason why the court of Russia would not, these three years past, withdraw its troops from Poland, since the articles of the treaty, concluded in 1133 (1719), and that of 1152 (1738) stipulate, “ That as often as any event shall happen, capable of disturbing the perpetual peace of the two empires, they should proceed, *ipso facto*, to the means of terminating them in an amicable manner; nevertheless, the outrages and devastations at Balta have been denied, and the punishment of those who had the boldness to be guilty of them, has been postponed and even neglected. The silence itself of the Russian resident who, having been invited to come to the Porte to answer for this proceeding, and to declare what his court meant by still keeping its troops in Poland, proves the infraction of the treaty. At last, he was asked definitively, whether according to the ancient and new treaties, which subsist between the two empires, the court of Russia would desist from meddling with the affairs of Poland, under pretence of guarantee and promise; he replied, that his full power was limited, and that he could not answer thereupon, since that article was known to his court only. Such a behaviour plainly demonstrates that the above-mentioned power thinks proper to take upon itself the infraction of treaties; therefore it is, that the illustrious doctors of the law have given

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given by fetras (or legal sentences) their answers that, "according to the exigency of justice, it was necessary to make war against the Muscovites:" an opinion that has unanimously been confirmed. Thus the arrest of the said resident being become necessary, we give by these presents, notice to all the powers of Europe, that the said resident shall be guarded in the castle of the Seven Towers, and that during the whole time that this transaction has lasted, the sublime Porte has done nothing that might break the friendship, nor any thing contrary to the articles of the treaties concluded between the two empires, &c.

The following is the substance of the Grand Vizir's letter circulated at Warsaw, dated the 18th of October 1768.

To the most illustrious Lords of the Christian Nation, the Refuge of the Great among the Nazarens, the Republic of Poland, our Friends, whose End be crowned with Prosperity.

"ACCORDING to the substance of the papers which you have sent eight month ago to the sublime Porte, through the hands of the pachas of Bender and Choczim, you have informed this court, that after the death of Augustus III. king of Poland, when the republic was about electing a king, the Russians had arbitrarily entered into the Polish territories, and interested themselves in bringing about the election contrary to the liberties of the Polish nation: that Russia had not only forcibly carried that election in favour of a person whom they had great inte-

rest in, but had, under appearances of reconciliation, thrown a considerable body of troops into Poland, by whose help they committed great disorders and injuries of all kinds; and that, in overturning the ancient constitutions of that kingdom, they behaved in the most barbarous manner to the opponents, in plundering them of their goods and substance, and sometimes by massacring their persons. Upon which, having represented to the sublime Porte, that the proximity of Poland to the Turkish dominions required their serious consideration, you desired that the Porte would recall into the mind of her imperial majesty, the sentiments of magnanimity, in favour of the Poles; that she would make them feel the good effects of her regard for them, and of her august protection, and save them from those persecutions they were labouring under. It is useless to re-trace under your eyes the charms of security and tranquility which, since the peace of Carlowitz, the Polish nation has constantly enjoyed under the shelter of the sentiments of generosity, which the sublime Porte entertained towards them; and through which neither the troops of the Turkish frontiers, nor those of the most serene Chan of Tartary, notwithstanding their being so contiguous to Poland, have distinguished themselves in any offensive undertaking against its territories. It had been stipulated and agreed, not only in the preliminaries, but also in the articles of the treaty of peace and friendship, concluded between the sublime Porte and the court of Russia in the year of the Hegira,

1133, that the Russian troops should not make any stay in Poland; but that if, according to the exigency of the case, some Russian troops entered any time into Poland, they should finish their business as fast as possible, that they might directly quit it, and in no way molest the Poles in the full enjoyment of their liberties and privileges. It was on such foundation, that in the year of the Hegira 1152, in the treaty of peace and friendship exchanged and concluded between the sublime Porte, and the court of Russia, the articles above, for the sake of their former establishment, remained in *statu quo*, and were in as full force as they were before.

“ In consequence of this, the sublime Porte, considering that the Russians could not send a considerable body of their troops into Poland, nor make any long stay in that country, was strongly persuaded that the republic of Poland, and its subjects, free from all inquietudes, would enjoy a profound tranquillity.

“ Nevertheless, by the imperial order of his sublime Highness, two friendly letters were sent by the grand vizir to the republic, relative to the election of a successor to the dead king, in favour of one of the republic, in which the Poles were desired to live in union and good understanding, in order that they should elect a king among themselves, by unanimous consent: saying farther, that if they gave their votes to a foreigner, that would be the same thing as opening their gates to foreign troops, which would not fail to desolate the republic, to violate and perhaps even annihilate their

liberties, and entirely sap the foundations of its power. The Poles did not understand that the sublime Porte, by his advising them to be very cautious not to admit any foreign troops amongst them, intended only to shelter them from the invasion of the Russians, and that it was the interest of the Porte to protect the republic. — By an effect of their blindness, they persisted in being divided, and from time to time permitted a reiterated entrance to the Russian troops into Poland, always under the pretext of reconciling their disputes. They have brought upon themselves misfortunes which continual dissensions have always increased, and they now undergo the fatal consequences which the entrance of the foreign troops has occasioned. If the too long continuance of the Russian troops in Poland is contrary to the perpetual friendship declared in the anterior and posterior treaties of the sublime Porte with the court of Russia, of what fatal consequence has the entrance of those troops not been, which brought disorders on the Turkish frontiers, and the commission of hostilities as far as Balta? Moreover, in the conclusion of the treaties above-mentioned, it has been stipulated, that if in the dominions of the sublime Porte, as likewise in those of Russia, any thing hurtful to one of the respective powers should happen, all care and precaution should be taken to settle such matters in the most amicable manner.”

It seems to be pretty certain, that Russia was not desirous of entering into a war with the Porte, if peace could have been preserv-

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ed, without giving up all its interested views respecting Poland; and the infringements of its troops on the Ottoman territories do not appear to have been done with any premeditated design of giving offence to that court, but are to be considered as matters of chance and accident.

The affairs of Poland have of late years greatly engaged the attention of the Porte, and it was not to be expected the Grand Signior would long remain indifferent to the measures lately pursued by the Empress in that country. The increasing power of Russia, and the ascendancy that empire has acquired in all the transactions of the North, were objects of sufficient jealousy to so near a neighbour; and its influence and unlimited authority in a country so extensive and important as Poland, was not to be overlooked by the Ottoman Porte, without giving up all pretensions to true policy, abstracted from other views. To this may be added, the applications repeatedly made to the Grand Signior for some years past by the nobility of Poland; and the late proposals of the inhabitants of Podolia, and other provinces, who offered to throw themselves and their countries, under the protection of the Porte, on certain conditions. Upon the whole, these were sufficient objects to excite the ambition of this prince—But without entering farther into the motives on either side we shall proceed to give our readers a particular account of the different operations of these two states, as far as they respect the present war subsisting between them.

We have before observed, that

the attention of the Porte has, for some time past been engaged in the measures pursued in Poland by the Russian empire. Accordingly, we find numberless representations and remonstrances have been made to the court of Russia, by the Porte; and particularly on the long continuance of its troops in that country. To these, the answers always given by the court of Petersburg were, that its troops in Poland were very inconsiderable in point of number, and those without artillery, or even a Russian general to command them: that they were sent there at the request of the republic, with a view of preserving peace and good order to its inhabitants during their domestic troubles. And in some of the latest of their answers, promises were made to the Porte, that the troops should be immediately recalled.—Things were thus circumstanced, when the late bloody hostilities commenced between the Russians and the Confederates in Poland; in which the latter being generally overpowered and closely pursued, frequently fled for shelter and protection into the Turkish territories; and whenever this was the case, it was almost impossible for the Russian officers to observe the exact boundaries of the two nations. However, when complaints were made of these violations of territory, they were properly acknowledged; and many of the Cossacks, who exercised barbarities on the confederates under the Turkish protection, were hanged on the frontiers. But the most singular and material of all those proceedings, respected a large body of Russian troops, who pursued a party of the confederates
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to the town of Balta in the Lesser Tartary, where they had fled for refuge, which the Russians attacked and took sword in hand, wreaking their vengeance with unlimited barbarity, on Turks Tartars, and whoever came in their way, to the number of one thousand, as was asserted in the manifesto published at Constantinople. This charge, however was denied by the Russians, who attributed those outrages to the Haydamacks; in opposition to which, the Turks declared, that the troops who took Balta, had a train of artillery, which is never used by the Haydamacks.—The Turks, however, did not fail to represent the affair at Balta, in the most glaring and aggravated colours, with a view to excite the indignation and resentment of the people, and dispose their minds for war; an event the Porte had most probably determined on, before this affair was transacted. The design produced the effect intended; all ranks of people were in an immediate ferment at Constantinople, and every thing wore the face of war. The governors of the European provinces received orders to collect their respective troops together and march towards the Neister; many of the most distant chiefs were required to furnish their contingents; and the commanders of the irregular troops were ordered to raise several thousand volunteers. Considerable bodies of janizaries, with other forces and large quantities of provisions and military stores were continually shipped off for Varna, a port on the Black Sea.

In this situation of affairs, the grand vizir, who it is said was averse

to the war, was deposed, and Selistiar Hamzey Pacha appointed in his room. This occasioned a change of administration, which, from the very beginning, seemed inclined to favour a war.—As soon as the new vizir arrived, a grand council was held, when the Russian resident was ordered to attend, the consequences of which have been before related.

The whole empire was now in motion, and the preparations for war were carried on with the greatest ardour and expedition. The Grand Signior, himself, examined very closely into the state and conduct of the army, as well as every thing that had any relation to the military department. Great bodies of the Asiatic troops were continually wasted over to the European side of the Hellespont; but the great disorders they committed, in their march through the suburbs of Constantinople, occasioned an order, by which they were latterly obliged to take shipping at the Dardanelles, from whence they were transported by the Black Sea to Gallipoly. The Sultan seemed very desirous to introduce a more rigorous form of discipline among the troops. To this purpose, every corps of the army was obliged to encamp regularly, and lie in their tents; and no officer of whatever rank, was allowed to lodge in a house during any part of the march. He also made many regulations to prevent the disorders to which that country, from its peculiar form of government, is liable in time of war. Among the rest, wine was forbid under the severest penalties; and all those who were possessed of any quantities

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were obliged to stave it, or else to send it out of the country in a limited time, on pain of confiscation, and an arbitrary fine being imposed on them. Being doubtful of the fidelity of the Greeks, the Christians throughout the empire were ordered to deliver up all their arms, except the Greek and Armenian merchants, who were allowed to keep such as were necessary for defence in their journeys. This order was received with great reluctance, and, except near the capital, and in places where a military force commanded immediate awe, seems to have been but little complied with; the Christians of the Morea in particular, and of several of the islands in the Archipelago, absolutely refused to part with their arms, and some blood was shed in different places upon that account.

Notwithstanding the measures that were taken to preserve order and quiet, yet such are the bad effects of the Turkish policy, that the streets of Constantinople were constantly crowded with armed men who made it very dangerous to the natives as well as foreigners. It is a part of the Ottoman military system, and designed to keep up that enthusiasm, which they have found so useful among their troops, that every muselman, who enlists himself as a soldier to fight against the enemies of their faith, devotes his life as a martyr to die in the cause of religion.—All the different bodies of troops, as they arrived, were sent off towards the Danube; which, as it was too late for any service before the spring, and the constitutions of the Asiatics in particular were very unfit to bear the rigour of the winter in

that climate, does not seem at first sight to be the result of the best policy. It is probable that the Porte was apprehensive that the Russians might have made some extraordinary efforts in the winter, and that they did not chuse to keep a multitude of troops of different nations too near the capital.

Before we conclude the particulars of the transactions of the last year, it may not be improper to observe, that the Sultan demanded a contribution of 650,000 piastres from the Jews, Greeks, and Armenians, who dwelt in Constantinople, which they readily paid; and he promised that no other demand should be made upon them during the war. When we consider the violent influence that religious prejudices have upon the Turks, and reflect that almost all the trade and money transactions of that great city are carried on and negotiated by those people, we are at a loss which to admire most, the moderation of the original demand, or the lenity that granted the future indemnity.

In respect to the transactions of this year, it will require time to be able to give our readers a clear information, as nothing can be more inconsistent and contradictory than the accounts we receive, especially in regard to dates. Some of the most material are as follow:—As soon as the present war was declared by Russia against the Ottoman Porte, the Empress gave orders to the Deputy of Ubaschy, chan of the Calmouks, in the province of Astrachan, to send 20,000 Calmouks to the army, and that he, the deputy, in person, should act with all his remaining forces

forces against the Tartars who inhabit the Turkish dominions on the river Kuban, which runs from the mountains near the Euxine, even beyond the Caspian sea. Soon after, the 20,000 Calmouks were dispatched to join the army.—On the 28th of April, in the evening, the deputy was informed by his out-posts, that the enemy appeared at a distance, but in a very small number. The next morning they advanced in a large body, drawn up in three lines, and took possession of a valley, in which there was a bottom surrounded with very thick bushes, where they placed their right wing, who dismounted from their horses. The Calmouks surrounded them on all sides, and began a most furious fire upon the enemy, who defended themselves with great bravery. But colonel Koshenkoff observing a small eminence which commanded the valley took possession of it with a small party of Cossacks and dragoons, and flanking the first line of the enemy, from two field-pieces which he had placed there, obliged them to take shelter among the bushes. The second line had dismounted before, and had already entered the bottom. The third line only remained on the spot, which, at the third discharge of the two field-pieces, was thrown into the utmost confusion. The Calmouks observing this, fell immediately upon the enemy, and put them totally to the rout. According to the best accounts, this body consisted of upwards of 6000 select troops, commanded by Arslan Hirey and Maksouk Hirey, two sultans of the families of the chans of Crimea, and many mour-

tas or Tartar Princes. The fight lasted from two in the afternoon till night. The Calmouks pursued the fugitives so closely all night, that very few escaped, especially at the river Calausa, the greatest part were drowned, or slain by the Calmouks, who got over the river before them. The Calmouks took five standards, one black, two red, and two white, which were all the colours the enemy had, besides a great number of coats of mail and carbines, and upwards of 5000 horses. The number of prisoners was but very small as the Calmouks gave no quarter.

On the 30th of April, prince Gallitzin having passed the Neister, marched with his army to Choczim. When his van-guard appeared before the walls they were very briskly attacked by 1000 Turkish volunteers, who made a sally from the town, but were obliged to retire after an obstinate dispute: on which they set fire to the four corners of the place, having first thrown themselves, and such of the principal inhabitants as remained, with their effects, into the citadel. The fire burnt with great fury till the next day, when the Russians began to cannonade the castle. At the same time an action happened between the troops under general Prozorowski, and a party of Turks, commanded by a Pacha of two tails, who had been joined by young Pulawski with a body of confederates: the combat was very long and bloody.

Soon after this, prince Gallitzin, retired with his army from Choczim, being in want of provisions and forage, to the forest of

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of Buckeroina *; where he continued till the latter end of August, according to the best accounts, when he left this place and repassed the Neister. The Turks having intelligence of this, on the 17th of September at day-break, dispatched an army of 12,000 janizaries and cavalry, which passed the Neister upon a bridge that was covered by a battery; but about noon the river swelled to such a prodigious degree, that the bridge was carried away, and consequently their retreat cut off. As soon as this event was known to prince Gallitzin, he attacked the enemy so successfully, that some hundreds of the Turks escaped by swimming, and the remainder were either killed, or taken prisoners. The Russians in this battle took 151 standards or horses tails, and two generals truncheons. They then made themselves masters of the enemy's battery, consisting of 64 pieces of cannon, and 14 mortars. The Russians lost no more than 135 killed, and 600 wounded. As soon as the Ottoman army on the other side of the Neister were informed of the total defeat of the corps of 12,000 men, their cries and exclamations demonstrated how greatly they were displeased with the grand vizir, and their indignation towards the confederates. They immediately abandoned the fortress of Choczim, and precipitately took the route towards Bender. In the mean while the Russian army passed the river in pursuit of the enemy, and

prince Gallitzin directly took possession of Choczim, where he found 180 pieces of large brass cannon, and a considerable quantity of ball, bombs, and other warlike ammunition, with some hundreds of Turkish women. The number of prisoners taken by the Russians beyond the Neister, amounted to 6000, among whom were several pachas. As soon as he entered Choczim, he drew up his forces in order of battle, upon the approach of the great Turkish army, the right wing of which extended towards Choczim, and the left to the forest of Buckeroina.

To enumerate the particulars of every engagement between the Ottoman and Russian troops, would fill a volume, and consequently exceed the limits of our plan; we shall therefore, at present, only observe on the whole, that those of the latter were always victorious in every important attack, so that very considerable advantages were gained by them during this campaign, exclusive of the great and valuable spoils taken from the enemy: notwithstanding which, public notices were given at Constantinople of repeated victories gained by the Ottoman troops, but it is evident, these were only intended to disguise their losses for a time, as appears not only from the beheading of the prime interpreter of the Porte, but its being followed by the beheading of the grand vizir of the army, and the Hospodar of Moldavia.

The Russian army in pursuing

* This forest, which is situated at some distance from Choczim, is near 50 miles in extent, and is famous in history for the defeat of the Polish army by the Tartars.

the remains of the grand Ottoman army, seized the grand vizir's seraglio consisting of about 50 of his wives. Lieutenant Schuwalow intercepted a corps of the enemy, who were retiring towards Bender, and cut to pieces the greatest part of them. The rest, consisting of about 4000 men, escaped into Moldavia. The Turkish army is daily diminished by the victories of the Russians, as well as by desertion; so that it is probable they will neither be able to defend Bender and Oczakow, or make any important opposition to the Russian forces the next campaign. Towards the close of this year, when the Russian troops were preparing to enter into winter quarters, not a single man belonging to the Turkish army was visible on that side the Danube nearest to Volhinia; and as prince Repnin's troops were to quarter at Bosalia, and the rest to form a line along the Neister, Poland will probably be secure from the incursions of the Tartars.

The Porte has used its utmost endeavours to promote a warlike disposition among the people, but, the Grand Signior seems disposed to restore tranquility; and indeed, when the present situation of affairs is impartially considered, it cannot be imagined that his highness can possibly take a more salutary step, than that of a reconciliation with Russia: especially, as that power, to the astonishment of all Europe, has fitted out a fleet, destined to attack his very capital. This step of the empress has been considered as rather romantic, yet, we see she is using her endeavours to attempt it. What success this enterprize may be crowned with, time alone must shew; but it is

generally allowed that the Turkish marine, is in no condition for making any opposition; so that the probability of the Russians becoming masters of Constantinople, is not so very chimerical as some may imagine, especially, as most of the islands in the Archipelago are unguarded and defenceless, and the inhabitants ripe for a revolt. The Russian fleet, it is true (if we are rightly informed), has met with some unexpected difficulties, but these were not wholly unsurmountable. What part the other great powers of Europe will take in this war, or whether they will take any, seems at present very doubtful. The Russian ships have been amicably received in all the ports in the Mediterranean—The conduct of Russia, respecting the affairs of Poland, has in general been approved by his Prussian majesty, who has signified his disapprobation of the acts of the confederates; but this cannot be a matter of wonder, since the formidable power of Russia, is very necessary to him.

The Ottoman dominions seem to be in danger on every side. The Russians, from a spirit and activity unknown to them till of late, have not only defeated the Turks, but forced them to cross the Neister, and are in possession of Moldavia, Walachia, and great part of Transylvania; while the Turks have fled for refuge behind the Danube: and though they exceed the Russians in numbers, and are possessed of almost inexhaustible resources arising from their extensive dominions, still their inequality in point of experience in the art of war, seems greatly to have abated that
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enthusiastic valour they once possessed. After all, if Russia alone is not capable of conquering this empire, she is at least sufficiently powerful to circumscribe its ambitious views.

SECTION IV.

PRESENT STATE *of the* SOUTH- ERN PARTS *of* EUROPE.

WE have already observed, that, the nearer parts of Europe have taken no share in the disturbances in the North. The views of the court of Vienna seem at present entirely pacific, having been engaged for some time in making a more equal arrangement of its hereditary dominions in respect to a distribution of them amongst the younger branches of the Austrian family. The wisdom of this piece of policy is too obvious to require illustration. The empress-queen seems to have relinquished that natural and just enmity to the house of Bourbon, she so deservedly ought to maintain; and now rather solicits its friendship, by her consent to a treaty of marriage between the dauphin and one of the arch-duchesses; on which account, part of her hereditary territories in the Netherlands is to be ceded to the crown of France. A circumstance teeming with many dreadful events, naturally alarming to the other powers of Europe; who probably consider the house of Bourbon as already too formidable. However, the present emperor, who seems born with talents to make a distinguishable figure in the system of Europe, had the courage and re-

solution to oppose this measure, in which he was seconded by the States-general, and, if we are not misinformed, his Prussian majesty, who doubtless, from the relation of the stadtholder with the Brandenburg family, does not wish to see the French territories enlarged in that quarter. At present, it does not appear, what part the other members of the family-compact will take in this affair, but it is very probable, the emperor's resolutions to oppose this measure, will be supported by the protestant powers. He seems intent on restoring the empire to that dignity and importance it once possessed, but has not known for some time. For which purpose among other things, he has been at great pains to put his armies and fortifications upon a respectable footing. Last year the military arrangements were particularly numerous, one project continually succeeding another; among the æconomical systems in that department, they enlarged their corps of cavalry, consolidated two squadrons into one; and incorporated twenty-two regiments of foot into as many old ones. Great pains were taken to remount the cavalry, so that in a few weeks several thousand horses crossed the Elbe, that were bought for the Austrian and Saxon troops. As this court has not been inattentive to what passed in Poland, several small camps were formed during the summer, in Bohemia, Moravia, and Hungary; and when, towards the latter part of the season, the transactions in that country became more interesting, a considerable line of troops was stationed on the frontiers. All these camps were visited by the

emperor in person, who examined into every department of the military, reformed a multitude of abuses, and introduced new and stricter modes of discipline: so that it is imagined his intentions are to prevent the Porte from making any further acquisitions towards Poland and Hungary.

The state of affairs in the electorate of Saxony, has not varied much since the last year, when great attention was paid to the army, and uncommon pains taken to put it on a respectable footing. It seems highly probable, that the electoral family will, by degrees, recover that splendour, which was so much impaired by the last war. The prince administrator has resigned the reins of government to his nephew the electoral prince. The election of prince Clement to the archbishopric and electorate of Treves is undoubtedly a great addition to its dignity and strength, especially, as since the death of the prince bishop of Augsburgh, he enjoys three important bishopricks, exclusive of the electorate, having been before in the possession of the bishoprick of Freisinguen and Ratisbon. The court of Vienna cannot fail to interest itself in procuring the prince administrator an equivalent for the dutchy of Courland, as in the present situation of affairs, a measure of this nature may be readily agreed to. And the marriage lately concluded between the electoral prince and the princess of Deuxponts will also in its effects be a very important alliance; since that family will succeed to the Palatinate of the Rhine, upon the demise of the present elector.

We have before remarked, that

the king of Prussia has not been inattentive to the affairs of Poland. He is indeed, in some degree, a party in the transactions of that kingdom, not only as a guarantee, but as having in every respect, except sending forces there, supported the measures pursued by the court of Russia. The military measures he has lately taken, seem to arise from an apprehension, that the proceedings in Poland may be productive of unexpected effects, from which he has been particularly careful, to complete his armies, replenish his magazines, and station his troops, so as to be properly prepared for any event that may happen.

In respect to France, it was to have been expected, that the great share that kingdom bore in the calamitous effects of the late war, would sufficiently have checked the power of that restless disposition, which has so repeatedly proved fatal to its general repose: but we have a recent instance to the contrary. Our readers will readily perceive we here allude to the conquest of the island of Corsica by the French.

This measure was in consequence of a formal treaty concluded with the republic of Genoa, by which the latter cedes for an indeterminate time, the kingdom of Corsica to the French king. It might have been apprehended that this procedure would be considered as an infraction of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, by which it had been provided, that no change should be made in the state of Italy. From various causes so extraordinary a step has hitherto produced no visible motion in any of the powers interested in that treaty; the

the smaller acquiescing thro' fear, some of the greater from a change in political connexions, and others perhaps waiting the issue of secret negotiations, or a more favourable juncture for the assertion of their rights. The island of Corsica was of very little consequence while in the hands of Genoa. As an independent state, it could be no object of jealousy or danger to any other. As an acquisition to France, it may be regarded as an object of consideration, especially to the maritime powers. Whether it was from a deep and critical knowledge of the political temper and complexion of the times, or whether it proceeded from a fortunate concurrence of events only, France seized the lucky minute for the invasion of that island; a measure which at other times, and in other situations, would have drawn upon it the resentment of half Europe.—The possession of Corsica subtends the gulph of Genoa, from Toulon to Piombino; the whole, or greatest part of which coast is in possession of the family compact, or their vassals the Genoese; and considering the present state of that republic, it is not unreasonable to expect that France will soon, either to indemnify herself for her expences, or on pretence of a voluntary cession, take possession of Genoa, as she has done of Corsica. What must become of our ally the king of Sardinia, whose friendship is of so much consequence to great Britain? The conquest of Sardinia cannot now be attended with much difficulty; and should this measure take place, what have we not to apprehend for every branch of the Mediterranean trade, not only in war, but

in peace. The king of Sardinia, a wise and politic prince, who has so long and so ably supported the balance of Italy, seems to have been the only power who regarded it in the light in which it deserved. It is said, that he applied upon this occasion to a great power and ancient ally, and proposed their jointly taking such effectual measures, as would have insured success; but this application being without effect, he was obliged to remain an unwilling spectator of an evil, which, standing alone, he was unable to remedy.

It must be confessed, that the conduct of France has been greatly suspected, ever since the last peace; for while she has been making the warmest professions of friendship to the neighbouring powers, she has not omitted one single measure that could strengthen her family compact, which is now so considerable as to render its importance highly alarming: but, on the other hand if we examine into the present state of her finances, it is not very probable she will have it in her power to make any extraordinary movement that can disturb the peace of Europe for some time: her king is in the utmost distress for money for the support of his government; and every province of that kingdom is replete with poverty and distress. Loaded as she is with a heavy debt, and wounded in many essential parts of her commerce, she will undoubtedly find it her interest for a considerable length of time, to employ all her attention, towards lessening the one, and effectually restoring the other.

Spain and Portugal have not offered any thing new during the

course of this year; the former still continues steady in its plans of religious reformation; and the affairs of the latter, respecting the commercial differences between that court and Great Britain, remain much the same as they were at the close of the last year.

In respect to the Italian states, the situation of the affairs of some of them seems drawing towards a crisis, so that we are unable to give any particular account, that would be satisfactory and conclusive; for which reason we shall omit it at present, till we have an opportunity of forming a regular and complete history; which, with some observations on the late expulsion of the Jesuits, we hope to lay before our readers in the next volume.

SECTION V.

Observations on the Disputes between Great Britain and her American Colonies.

THE great and growing state of the British colonies in North America, and the unhappy contentions between them and the mother country, furnish a subject almost inexhaustible. As a minute detail of the particulars from the beginning, cannot have a place here, on account of the uncommon length of some of our former articles; and, as the affairs themselves, are not yet come to a crisis, we are obliged to postpone a regular history and discussion of them, at present, and shall only offer a few general observations to the attention of our readers.

The laws which had been passed in the year 1767, for the purpose

of raising a revenue in the colonies by the laying of duties on the importation of glass, paper, and some other commodities from Great Britain, and the consequent establishment of custom houses in their ports, have been productive of very alarming disturbances, and of consequences very prejudicial to the commercial interests of this country. Notwithstanding which the conduct of government seems less reproachable than is generally imagined, respecting those laws; nor, are the grievances so loudly complained of by the Americans, such as have been represented. The stamp-act was repealed, with a view to restore tranquility; and, though a measure of a similar tendency has been adopted, probably too suddenly, yet, there is great reason to believe this alone is not the foundation of the present dissensions; they seem to derive their source from a very different cause. That republican spirit to which the principal colony owed its foundation, and the levelling principles of the forefathers of the present inhabitants, appear to have given rise to the present disturbances. Their minds have been inflamed by the arts of some factious and designing men, who had great influence among them. By which means they have ventured to disclaim all dependance upon the British legislature, at the same time that their public writers, as well as speakers, were generally very intemperate; and a certain style and manner was introduced which seemed peculiar to themselves, and too ridiculous for serious composition. In some of these publications, while they seemed, on the one hand, to forget

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get their dependance as colonies, and to assume the tone of distinct and original states; on the other, they eagerly claimed all the benefits of the English constitution and the highest rights of Englishmen; but did not recollect, that it was that dependance only, which could entitle them to any share of those rights and benefits. A light and irreverent language became the mode, in all matters which related to government, or even to the legislature; but when their provincial assemblies came to be mentioned, they were no longer known by that appellation, but were upon every occasion distinguished by the title of Parliaments.

Our readers are not unacquainted with the powerful opposition made to Mr. Grenville's administration, and the general ferment of the nation at that period; which, from chance, more than intention, favoured the complaints of the Americans; especially, as at that time, some of our senators were so incautious as to assert their independency respecting the right of taxation, because they were not represented in the British parliament. In consequence of which, the stamp-act was repealed, as we have before observed; a proceeding which seemed to have been resolved on rather too precipitately and without sufficient deliberation: and though the repeal was qualified by another short act, asserting the sovereignty of Great Britain over the colonies, yet the factious Americans, with great eagerness, and zeal, embraced the principle maintained by those great authorities, and urged it as a general exemption of all taxations by a British parliament, in which they were

not represented by delegates chosen by themselves. But, it seems to be pretty certain, that some of these champions for independency, have seen the necessity of retracting their distinction between legislation and taxation: since the power of the former is vain, and illusory, without that of the latter; for how can laws be executed without a coercive power; and, from whence can that coercive power arise, or be possibly maintained without taxation? The plea of the Americans is not only absurd, but truly ridiculous, when they have recourse to those natural rights which they assert their forefathers carried with them to the deserts of America; for how can a change of situation authorize any to shake off that allegiance which is due to their mother-country?

Their pleas from their patents, grants, and charters, are equally inconclusive; because, it is plain that their American possessions are conceived in those deeds to be parcels of the land of England; and consequently their owners are included in the English representation, as much as any man in England is, who has not a vote for a member of parliament: from hence, the principles of the colonists may be easily understood.—We shall here quit the subject at present, and only observe, that the accounts we receive of the numbers and perseverance of the refractory are extremely fallacious and equivocal; nor are they supported by any persons of great consequence and property among them, except such as are compelled by fear, or influenced by interested motives.

SECTION VI.

*General Remarks on the Affairs of
INDIA.*

THE vast extent of the empire acquired in India; the various discussions which have arisen upon that subject between the Oriental powers and the East-India company, as also between that company and the English government, afford sufficient materials for historical intelligence; and claim a peculiar right to our attention in preference to foreign politics. There is great reason to imagine, from the present situation of affairs, that a short time will bring them to a critical period, so as to enable us to form a regular history of these interesting particulars; which we shall defer till the publication of our next volume, when we hope we shall be enabled to give our readers all the information they can possibly wish for, or expect. We have therefore only to observe at present, that, the war in India does not appear to have produced any material change, or alteration in the flourishing state of our East-India Company. The great superiority of power it has now acquired, firmly secures its establishments in that quarter of the world; at the same time, that we have the felicity to perceive, the hostile enterprises of the neighbouring princes rather confirm, than weaken it: A happy circumstance to the com-

pany, as they might have found the author of the war of the Decan, a very formidable enemy, had their affairs not been thus securely settled. The superior strength, wealth, and material abilities of the English, leave no great prospect of success on the side of Hyder Ali; as on the other hand, the country in which he has sheltered himself, is such, as the English will not find easy of reduction.

The public is sufficiently acquainted with the late claim of government upon the East-India Company, and therefore, we shall only remark on that particular, that the claim, so far from being arbitrary, appears to be founded on terms of moderation and equity: and, this seems confirmed by the late acquiescence of a majority of the proprietors with the proposals of the public, under the sanction of parliament.

POSTSCRIPT.

THE disturbances which have happened in this metropolis during the course of the year, respecting the Middlesex-Election, and some other particulars, are so generally known, as to render any account of them unnecessary here; at least at present, as there is reason to apprehend, the consequences attending some of them, will shortly undergo a national and parliamentary consideration.

STATE

S T A T E P A P E R S.

For the Y E A R, 1769.

St. James's, Feb. 6.

The following address of the archbishop, bishops, and clergy of the province of Canterbury, was this day presented to his majesty by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury, upon the birth of a prince.

Most gracious sovereign,

W E your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the archbishop, bishops, and clergy of the province of Canterbury, in convocation assembled, beg leave to present our most humble and sincere congratulations to your majesty upon the increase of your royal and illustrious family; every addition to which, we with the rest of your majesty's faithful subjects, consider as a farther security of those invaluable blessings, which this nation has enjoyed under the house of Brunswick, and as a pledge of its future happiness.

It is with the greatest satisfaction, as well as the deepest sense of gratitude, that your faithful clergy take this opportunity of their being convened, to repeat their thankfulness to your majesty for the frequent assurances which you have given them of your firm resolution to maintain them in the full en-

joyment of their civil and religious rights, and to make their public acknowledgment of the experience they have had of your strict adherence to those gracious declarations.

Happy, Sir, would it be for this nation, if your royal authority, if your illustrious example, if the influence of your private and public virtues, had a more powerful effect upon the minds and morals of your people. But we are obliged to confess what we with sorrow observe, that a disregard to the sacred precepts of Christianity, and a neglect of its most essential duties, become every day more general through all ranks of men; and that a spirit of licentiousness prevails both in the writings and practice of the times, equally dangerous to the best constituted civil government, and to the purest mode of religious worship.

Under these circumstances we, who are most immediately engaged in the service of religion, feel ourselves in a more peculiar manner called upon to check, as far as we are able, the growing evils we lament; to impress, in the strongest manner, upon the minds of the people, fidelity to, and zeal for the

the established religion of our country, with moderation and Christian charity towards those who have the misfortune to differ from us: to admonish them to be attentive to the sacred principles of religion, and to use their utmost endeavours to make their lives conformable to its holy doctrines.

Thus alone can we acquit ourselves of our duty towards God, and contribute to the present welfare and future happiness of our fellow-creatures.

In these our pious endeavours, we know we can depend upon the countenance and protection of your majesty: may you, Sir, with the assistance of the Almighty, long continue the firm support of the Protestant faith: may the same Providence, under whose divine protection you carried on and concluded the most successful war that is recorded in the annals of our history, enable you to preserve to your people, for a course of many years, the blessings of peace: and may you continue to derive constant satisfaction to yourself, from a sense of that happiness which your subjects receive from the wisdom and mildness of your government.

They were received very graciously, and all had the honour to kiss his majesty's hand.

To which address his majesty was pleased to return the following most gracious answer:

I Return you my thanks for this very dutiful and loyal address, and for the share you take in my domestic happiness, so warmly expressed in your affectionate congratulations on the increase of my family. It is with the greatest plea-

sure I observe your reliance on my invariable resolution to preserve and maintain the civil and religious rights of the church of England as by law established. You may depend upon my constant approbation and strongest support of your endeavours to suppress that spirit of licentiousness and immorality, which unfortunately prevails so much at this time. The very laudable zeal with which you exert yourselves in impressing upon the minds of the people a proper sense of our holy religion, and just observance of the laws of this happy constitution, will ever meet with my countenance and protection.

His majesty's most gracious answer to the joint address of both houses of parliament, presented Feb. 13.

My lords, and gentlemen.

The sincere satisfaction you express in the measures which I have already taken, and the strong assurances you give of supporting me in those which may be still necessary to maintain the just legislative authority, and the due execution of the laws, in my province of Massachusetts-Bay, give me great pleasure.

I shall not fail to give those orders which you recommend as the most effectual method of bringing the authors of the late unhappy disorders in that province to condign punishment.

St. James's, March 6.

The following address, of the lord lieutenant and nobility, high sheriff, grand jury, gentlemen and clergy of the county of Essex, was this day presented to his majesty by Daniel Matber, esq. high sheriff of the

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the said county, being introduced by the lord of his majesty's bed chamber in waiting; which address was most graciously received.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of the lord lieutenant and nobility, high sheriff, grand jury, gentlemen, and clergy assembled at the assizes held at Chelmsford in and for the county of Essex, on Thursday the second day of March, one thousand seven hundred and sixty nine.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WHILST we feel the happy effect, and retain in our breasts a most grateful sense of the mildness and benignity of your majesty's government, we cannot see, without the utmost abhorrence, the spirit of sedition and licentiousness, which hath lately manifested itself in such various shapes, with design to lessen the respect and affection due to your majesty, to traduce and misrepresent your parliament, and draw into contempt the authority of the courts of justice, which in no time were more happily or more eminently supplied.

Every part of the conduct of these disturbers of the public repose appears to us as weak and unreasonable as it is wicked: yet we think such proceedings, if not timely checked, may operate to subvert the constitution, and destroy that liberty which hath been made the specious but false pretence for committing outrages of the most dangerous and alarming kind.—Already the metropolis hath been frightened from its security, your majesty's repose in the seat of your government hath been most insolently invaded, and the lawful

administration of justice violently obstructed. It therefore becomes our duty, as friends to the constitution and faithful subjects to your majesty, to lay these our sentiments at the foot of your throne, relying with the firmest confidence, on your majesty's wisdom and justice for the exertion of such prudent and vigorous measures as may restore peace and good order amongst us. And we do assure your majesty, that being fully persuaded that the preservation of the public tranquility and our own safety are inseparable from the security of your majesty's government, we are determined, at the risque of our lives and properties, to support your royal authority in suppressing and subduing all seditious and riotous attempts, which threaten destruction to the state, and disturb the happiness and honour of your reign.

His majesty's royal warrant for the pardon of Edward M'Quirk, found guilty of the murder of George Clarke.

G E O R G E R.

WHEREAS a doubt has arisen in our royal breast concerning the evidence of the death of George Clarke, from the representations of William Bromfield, esq. surgeon, and Solomon Starling, apothecary; both of whom, as has been represented to us, attended the deceased before his death, and expressed their opinions that he did not die of the blow he received at Brentford: and whereas it appears to us, that neither of the said persons were produced as witnesses upon the trial, though the said Solomon Starling had been

exa-

mined before the coroner, and the only person called to prove that the death of the said George Clarke was occasioned by the said blow, was John Foot, surgeon, who never saw the deceased till after his death; we thought fit thereupon to refer the said representations, together with the report of the recorder of our city of London of the evidence given by Richard and William Beale, and the said John Foot, on the trial of Edward Quirk, otherwise called Edward Kirk, otherwise called Edward M'Quirk, for the murder of the said Clarke, to the master, wardens, and the rest of the court of examiners of the surgeons company, commanding them likewise to take such further examination of the said persons so representing, and of the said John Foot, as they might think necessary, together with the premises above mentioned, to form and report to us their opinion, "Whether it did or did not appear to them, that the said George Clarke died in consequence of the blow he received in the riot at Brentford on the 8th of December last." And the said court of examiners of the surgeons company having thereupon reported to us their opinion, "That it did not appear to them that he did;" we have thought proper to extend our royal mercy to him the said Edward Quirk, otherwise Edward Kirk, otherwise called Edward M'Quirk, and to grant him our free pardon for the murder of the said George Clarke, of which he has been found guilty: our will and pleasure therefore is, that he the said Edward Quirk, otherwise called Edward Kirk, otherwise called Edward M'Quirk,

be inserted, for the said murder, in our first and next general pardon that shall come out for the poor convicts of Newgate, without any condition whatsoever; and that in the mean time you take bail for his appearance, in order to plead our said pardon. And for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at our court at St. James's the 10th day of March 1769, in the ninth year of our reign.

By his majesty's command,

ROCHFORD.

To our trusty and well beloved James Eyre, esq recorder of our city of London, the sheriffs of our said city and county of Middlesex, and all others whom it may concern.

St. James's, March 18.

The three following addresses of the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of the city of Bristol; of the master wardens, and commonalty of the society of merchants venturers; and of the gentlemen, clergy, freeholders, and burgesses of the said city, have been presented to his majesty by the right honourable lord viscount Clare and Matthew Brickdale, esq representatives in parliament for the said city of Bristol, being introduced by the lord of his majesty's bed chamber in waiting, which addresses his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of the city of Bristol, in common council assembled.

Most

Most gracious Sovereign,

AT a time when the most dangerous and alarming riots have disturbed your capital, and a spirit of sedition is industriously propagated by designing men, we your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the mayor, burgessees, and commonalty of the city of Bristol, should be inexcusably wanting in that duty we owe to your majesty, to the constitution, and to ourselves, not to testify our abhorrence of all such outrageous and factious proceedings, and give your majesty the strongest assurances of our inviolable fidelity to your royal person, family, and government

And as, through your majesty's wisdom and paternal love for your people, effectual protection, both civil and religious, has ever been extended to all your peaceable and loyal subjects of every denomination, it becomes on our part a duty of gratitude, as well as a dictate of inclination, to do every thing, within the reach of our authority and influence, to promote the quiet, prosperity, and glory of your reign.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of the master, wardens, and commonalty of the society of merchants venturers of the city of Bristol, under their common seal.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the master, wardens, and commonalty of the society of merchants venturers of the city of Bristol, deeply impressed with a due sense of your

majesty's regard for the welfare of your people, humbly beg leave to present your majesty with our sincere professions of a most zealous and inviolable attachment to your royal person, family, and government; and, at the same time, to declare our entire disapprobation of all attempts to spread a spirit of riot and licentiousness through the kingdom, as tending to obstruct obedience to the laws, and to weaken that regard for lawful authority, which is so necessary to its peace and security.

We acknowledge, with the utmost gratitude, the many blessings we enjoy under your majesty's mild and auspicious government; which justly characterize your majesty the father of your people, the guardian of their liberties, and the protector of commerce. And we beg leave, on our part, to make a tender to your majesty of the strongest assurances of our unfeigned loyalty, duty, and respect; of our veneration for the laws; and of our ardent wishes and endeavours for the maintenance of order, and a due subordination to law authority.

To the king's most excellent majesty,

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the gentlemen, clergy, freeholders, and burgessees of the city of Bristol, humbly beg leave, in the present situation of affairs, to present your majesty with our most sincere professions of a zealous and unalterable attachment to your royal person, family, and government; and, at the same time, to declare our utter detestation and abhorrence of those seditious attempts, which have been lately made, to spread

spread a spirit of riot, licentiousness, and disaffection, through the kingdom, tending to destroy all subordination to lawful authority, and reduce this happy island to a wretched state of anarchy and confusion.

With hearts full of gratitude, we acknowledge, that during your majesty's mild and auspicious reign, the freedom of our most excellent constitution has been maintained; and that your majesty is justly intitled to that amiable and endearing character of being the guardian of public liberty, and the father of your people: and we beg leave to assure your majesty, in dutiful return for your royal protection and paternal goodness, that a cordial loyalty to our much beloved sovereign, a veneration for the laws, and an ardent affection for order and good government, are principles which shall invariably animate and direct the whole of our conduct.

The following address of the high sheriff, grand jury, gentlemen, and clergy of the county of Kent, has been presented to his majesty by Sir Charles Farnaby, bart. one of their representatives in parliament, and William Wheatley, esq. high sheriff of the said county, being introduced by the lord of his majesty's bed-chamber in waiting; which address his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the king's most excellent majesty,

The humble address of the high sheriff, grand jury, gentlemen, and clergy of the county of Kent, assembled at the assizes of Maidstone, March 6, 1769.

S I R E,

WHILE we, your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, enjoy all the happiness and advantage of your majesty's mild and auspicious reign, we cannot help lamenting the licentiousness that hath appeared on many public occasions, tending to interrupt the peace and good order of your majesty's government. — We reflect with concern upon the great inconvenience and fatal effects that must attend such a general spirit of disorder and opposition to constitutional and legal authority.

We beg leave to assure your majesty of our warmest wishes for the happiness and prosperity of your government, and our determined resolutions to support it with our lives and properties; and, as much as in us lies, we shall always exert ourselves in discountenancing that spirit of sedition, so artfully fomented and propagated by various orders of people in many parts of your majesty's dominions, and in every instance approve ourselves (as we are in duty bound) your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects.

St. James's, March 21.

The following address of the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university of Oxford, has been presented to his majesty by the rev. Mr. Wetherell, vice-chancellor of the said university, being introduced by the lord of his majesty's bed-chamber in waiting; which address his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

Most

Most gracious sovereign,

WE your majesty's most loyal and faithful subjects, the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university of Oxford, in full convocation assembled, humbly desire to approach your throne with hearts full of dutiful affection to your royal person, and impressed with a most grateful sense of the invaluable blessings derived to these nations from the preservation and free enjoyment of those civil and religious rights, which have been the great and constant objects of your majesty's paternal care and conduct.

The interests of true religion and liberty, so essentially interwoven with our excellent constitution, claim the peculiar attention of this seminary, which has long subsisted under their influence, and can only flourish under their protection.

But when the sacred name of liberty is prostituted to the designs of faction and sedition, and converted into an engine of party rage to destroy that glorious fabric, of which it is the ornament and support, such unjustifiable measures become more dangerous and alarming by the specious and fair appearances under which they are disguised; and, unless seasonably defeated, may terminate in that ruin of our happy constitution, which the sad experience of former times has taught us to dread.

We cannot therefore, without anxiety and concern, behold the repeated attempts formed by men, whose clamours against imaginary abuses of their constitutional rights and privileges, under pretence of preserving inviolate our civil liber-

ties, tend to raise a spirit of discord and tumult among your faithful subjects, in open defiance of justice and legal authority, and in violation of the peace and good order of government, so happily established under your majesty's royal protection.

We have seen the course of executive justice daringly obstructed, and every part of the legislative power insulted and reviled; we have seen every art of malice and falshood employed to destroy all reverence for magistracy and confidence in government; we see the daily and unremitted indignities offered to the most venerable and sacred personages: we therefore think ourselves bound, by every tie, social, civil, and religious, by every principle of conscientious duty, to express our hearty abhorrence of such violence and unconstitutional proceedings; and to assure your majesty, that it has ever been, and still is, the constant object of our unwearied care, to instil into the minds of the youth of this place, the genuine principles of religion and liberty; the security of which (under God) essentially depends upon the safety of your majesty's person, the dignity of your crown, and the authority of the laws; in the due and vigorous execution of which true constitutional liberty consists, and by which alone it can be supported.

And we farther beg leave to assure your majesty, that nothing shall be wanting on our part to discountenance irreligion and profaneness. We have been always sensible of their evil tendency to sap the principles of loyalty to the king and obedience to magistracy,
and

and to dissolve every tie of duty, affection, and allegiance, but we are now fully convinced of their growing influence, by the dangerous association of men, who, under the plausible pretext of supporting our rights and privileges, are, by their principles and practices, the real subverters of them.

The following address of the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university of Cambridge, has been presented to his majesty by the rev. Dr. Hinchcliffe, vice chancellor of the said university, being introduced by the lord of his majesty's bed chamber in waiting; which address his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university of Cambridge.

WE your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university of Cambridge, humbly beg leave to express the grateful sense we have of your majesty's constant and unwearied attention to promote the happiness of all your people.

Fully convinced that this or any other nation never enjoyed the invaluable blessings of civil and religious liberty in a greater degree than what we experience under your majesty's mild and most gracious government, we cannot but see, with concern and abhorrence, the evil designs of bad men, who, under specious pretences of promoting

the public good, are labouring to seduce the ignorant and unwary from their duty, by infusing into their minds needless fears and jealousies, as if the constitution was in danger.

We trust, it has ever been our constant endeavour, and humbly entreat your majesty's favourable acceptance of our most faithful assurances, that it ever shall be our particular care to instil into the rising generation committed to our charge, true principles of religion and loyalty, and such a sense of gratitude for your majesty's royal protection of this seat of learning, as will tend to make them good citizens and good subjects, and fully to answer the ends of our institution.

To this testimony of our duty and fidelity, we shall add our unfeigned prayers to the throne of grace, that it may please Almighty God long to preserve your majesty the beloved sovereign of an united, loyal, and affectionate people.

Given under our common seal this 17th day of March, 1769.

By the KING,
A PROCLAMATION*,
For the suppressing riots, tumults, and unlawful assemblies.

GEORGE.

WHEREAS it has been represented to us, that divers dissolute and disorderly persons have most riotously and unlawfully assembled themselves together, to the disturbance of the public peace; and have in a most daring and audacious manner, assaulted several

* This proclamation was published in an Extraordinary Gazette, March 22.

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chants and others, coming to our palace at St. James's, and have committed many acts of violence and outrage before the gates of our palace; and that these acts of violence have been accompanied with threats of a most dangerous kind; we, taking the same into our most serious consideration, and being resolved to suppress all such tumultuous riots and disorders, tending to the disturbance of the public peace, and to the endangering of all order and government, have thought fit, by and with the advice of our privy council, to issue this our royal proclamation, hereby strictly charging and commanding the lord mayor, and the justices of the peace of our city of London, and the justices of the peace of our city and liberties of Westminster, and borough of Southwark, and of the counties of Middlesex and Surrey, that they do use their utmost endeavours to prevent and suppress all riots, tumults, and unlawful assemblies; and to put in due and strict execution the laws and statutes made for preventing, and for the more speedy and effectual suppressing and punishing the same; and that all our loving subjects be aiding and assisting therein.

Given at our court at St. James's, the 22d day of March, 1769, in the 9th year of our reign.

God save the king.

St. James's, March 22.

This day a most numerous body of the merchants, traders, and other principal inhabitants of the city of London, waited on his majesty; and being introduced to his majesty by the earl of Hertford, lord chamberlain of the household, they presented the following address.

To the king's most excellent majesty,

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the merchants, traders, and other principal inhabitants of your city of London, truly sensible that it has been your majesty's constant care and principal object, since you ascended the throne of your illustrious ancestors, to secure to your people the full enjoyment of their religion, laws, and liberties inviolable, and to make them happy and flourishing, under your majesty's most auspicious government, beg leave to profess our steady loyalty and duty to your majesty, and our firm resolution to exert our utmost power in supporting the honour and dignity of your majesty's crown, in preserving the safety, peace and tranquillity of your majesty's realms, in maintaining public credit, and promoting commerce, for the benefit of your subjects throughout your dominions.

And we beg leave to express our concern and abhorrence of every attempt to spread sedition, to inflame the minds, and alienate the affection of a free and loyal people from the best of kings, and his government, which we apprehend has of late been encouraged, without the least shadow of foundation, by some ill-designing persons, to answer sinister and selfish purposes.

And we most sincerely pray Almighty God, that your majesty's great and bright example of piety, goodness, and clemency, may operate so effectually upon the minds of your people, as to suppress that spirit of licentiousness, profaneness, and irreligion, which has been in-

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dustriously propagated, to delude the unwary to their own destruction; and that the same good Providence will grant your majesty a long and happy reign over a dutiful and loyal people, and bless your endeavours with success, in a firm and permanent establishment of our most excellent constitution, which is not only admired, but envied by all foreign nations.

To which address his majesty was pleased to return this most gracious answer.

THE just sense you entertain of my desire to secure to my people the full enjoyment of their religion, laws, and liberties; and the strong assurances you give me of your resolution to support the dignity of my crown, to preserve peace among my subjects, to maintain public credit, and to promote commerce, afford me the greatest satisfaction; as well as your abhorrence of that inflammatory spirit of sedition, which it has been the business of artful and specious misrepresentations to propagate.

The warm wishes you express for the stability and permanence of this happy constitution, and the interest you take in my prosperity, will always deserve my favour and protection.

They were all most graciously received, and had the honour to kiss his majesty's hand.

St. James's, April 8.

The following address of the gentlemen, clergy, traders, and principal inhabitants of the city of Coventry, has been presented to his majesty by Sir Richard Glyn, bt. one of their representatives in parliament, being introduced by the

lord of his majesty's bed chamber in waiting: which address his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of the gentlemen, clergy, traders, and principal inhabitants of the city of Coventry.

IMpressed with the warmest sentiments of gratitude for the many invaluable blessings, which, under Providence, are derived to us from your majesty's mild and prudent administration, we most humbly beg leave to approach the throne with this most unfeigned attestation of our dutiful regard to your sacred person, and sincerest wishes for your peace and prosperity.

Under the fullest conviction, from repeated instances of your majesty's invariable attachment to the true interests of your people, and fixed resolution of preserving all their civil and religious rights inviolate, we cannot without horror, reflect on that spirit of discontent and disorder, which hath of late appeared among some of our misguided fellow-subjects, who, intoxicated with the specious appearance and cry of liberty, have unhappily enlisted themselves under the banners of licentiousness.

With respect to the mere instruments of our present confusions, we can only lament their error but from their patrons, from whose lessons of sedition they have been tempted to exhibit their improvements in that detestable science, even before the gates of your palace; notwithstanding they may assume to themselves the respectable character of Supporters of the Bill

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of Rights, they will for ever be regarded, by the more sober part of your majesty's subjects, as enemies to monarchy, and subverters of all legal government.

Whilst therefore we disclaim the least connection with such pretended guardians of the constitution, but real disturbers of its repose, permit us to assure your majesty, that we are ready to sacrifice every thing that is dear to us in defence of your royal person, and in support of such salutary measures, as, under your majesty's direction, may tend to restore the public tranquillity *.

St. James's, April 8.

The following address of the sheriff and grand jury of the county of Salop, has been presented to his majesty by Sir John Ashley, bt. and Charles Baldwin, esq. their representatives in parliament, being introduced by the lords of his majesty's bed chamber in waiting: which address his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of the sheriff and grand jury, assembled at the Lent assizes for the county of Salop, in the year 1769.

** This address occasioned the following singular publication, in the daily papers, which we cannot omit inserting in this place.*

L O N D O N.

London Tavern, April 11, 1769.

SUPPORTERS of THE BILL of RIGHTS.

SIR JOSEPH MAWBEE, bart. in the chair.

A false, malicious and scandalous libel having appeared in the Gazette of the 8th instant, under the title of an address from the gentlemen, clergy, traders, and principal inhabitants of the city of Coventry, charging the Supporters of the Bills of Rights with being "the patrons, from whose lessons of sedition the mere instruments of our present confusions have been tempted to exhibit their improvements in the detestable science of licentiousness, even before the gates of the royal palace;" and representing them as "men for ever to be regarded as enemies to monarchy, subverters of all legal government, pretended guardians of the constitution, and real disturbers of its repose:"

Resolved, That it would be unpardonable in this society to pass over in silence so unmerited and infamous a charge (and that too published by authority), conscious as they are that his majesty has not subjects more loyal and faithful to his sacred person, more attached to his illustrious family, more devoted to our happy constitution, nor more zealous for the peace, prosperity, and liberty of the people.

And therefore resolved, that a committee be appointed to take the aforesaid libel into consideration, and to report their opinion at the next general meeting.

Most gracious Sovereign,

W E your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the sheriff and grand jury, assembled at the Lent assizes for the county of Salop, with hearts full of gratitude for your majesty's most mild and auspicious government, humbly beg leave to declare our abhorrence and detestation of that mutinous and seditious spirit, which hath of late manifested itself in several parts of your majesty's dominions, tending to destroy all submission to lawful authority, and to introduce anarchy and confusion.

We beg leave to assure your majesty of our zealous and inviolable attachment to your royal person, family, and government, of our veneration for the established laws of the land, under the administration of which, by your sacred majesty, we enjoy the most perfect liberty that any nation can boast of; and that it shall be our utmost endeavour, at the hazard of our lives and properties, to support the same, and to discourage all such riotous and unlawful proceedings, as tend to disturb your majesty's government, and render more burthensome your tender and paternal care of your people.

St. James's, April 11.

The following address of the mayor, magistrates, gentlemen, clergy, merchants, manufacturers, and other principal inhabitants of the city of Norwich, has been presented to his majesty by Harbord Harbord, and Edward Bacon, esqrs. their representatives in parliament, being introduced by the lord of his majesty's bed-chamber in waiting: which address

his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of the mayor, magistrates, gentlemen, clergy, merchants, manufacturers, and other principal inhabitants of the city of Norwich.

Most gracious Sovereign.

YOUR majesty's most faithful subjects, the mayor, magistrates, gentlemen, clergy, merchants, manufacturers, and other principal inhabitants of the city of Norwich, are desirous to represent at the foot of your throne those dutiful sentiments of loyalty and affection, which they have ever entertained towards your majesty's sacred person, and the princes of your illustrious line.

After the happy experience we have had of your majesty's mild and gracious disposition, of your regard to the principles of our constitution, and of your paternal attention to the necessities of your people, we trusted that even the meanest of your subjects were duly sensible of the esteem and reverence they owed to their indulgent sovereign, and of the felicity we enjoy under the government of a virtuous king and a free legislature.—But the tumults and seditions that have lately disturbed your capital, and almost invaded the royal presence, too plainly declare the progress and tendency of that licentious spirit, which hath of late insulted the most respectable powers of the constitution.

Alarmed at these dangerous proceedings, equally repugnant to the dignity of the crown, the authority of the laws, and the safety of the

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the subject, we are earnest to assure your majesty, that, whatever opinion we may happen at any time to entertain of the measures of administration, we shall ever retain the most inviolable esteem and veneration for your royal person, and attachment to your illustrious house; and shall always exert our utmost endeavours to cherish and promote in all ranks among us, a spirit of loyalty and affection to the sovereign, of confidence and trust in the legislature, of reverence to the laws, of submission to the magistrates, and of peace, order, and tranquility among ourselves.

St. James's, April 12.

The following address from the county of Surry was presented to his majesty by John Thornton, esq. high sheriff, which his majesty was pleased to receive very graciously, and afterwards to confer the honour of knighthood on Richard Hotham, esq. of Merton, and Timothy Waldo, esq. of Clapham.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

WE your majesty's most dutiful, free, and loyal subjects, the high sheriff, and grand jury assembled at the assizes at Kingston upon Thames, and the nobility, gentlemen, clergy, and freeholders of the county of Surry, humbly beg leave to approach your royal presence, with unfeigned assurances of our inviolable attachment to your majesty's person and government, and of our hearty aversion to that spirit of anarchy which has of late been active in seducing the people from their constitutional subordination to the legislative and executive powers.

Our situation near the capital will, we humbly hope, render this

expression of our loyalty not unacceptable to your majesty.

The happiness our county enjoys of being honoured with your royal residence, when the cares of government permit you to retire to the exercise of your many private virtues, inspires us with a wish to be distinguished among the most faithful subjects of so excellent a king.

We owe the happy establishment of your majesty's illustrious house on the throne of these realms to the principles of liberty; and it shall be our steady purpose to encourage and cherish those principles, at the same time that we check every tendency to licentiousness among the people.

The blessings of the glorious Revolution, which we have hitherto enjoyed under your majesty's protection, give us the greatest confidence those blessings will be transmitted unbroken and intire to our latest posterity.

Gratitude, as well as interest, therefore will oblige us in our several stations to contribute our utmost to the support of the legal power, which that great event hath placed in your majesty's hands, and to manifest the truth of our present profession of exerting ourselves at all times to the utmost in defence of your majesty, and our happy constitution in church and state.

His majesty's most gracious speech to both houses of parliament, on Tuesday the 9th day of May, 1769.

My lords, and gentlemen,

HAVING thought it necessary to give so early a commencement to the present session of parliament, I am glad to find, that by your zeal and assiduity in the

dispatch of the public business, I am now enabled to relieve you from your attendance before the session of the year is too far advanced,

I cannot put an end to the session, without expressing my entire approbation of your conduct, and thanking you for that clear demonstration, which your proceedings, through the whole course of the session, have afforded to all the world, of the affectionate attachment of my parliament to my person and government, as well as of their steady adherence to the true interest of their country.

It was with much satisfaction that I observed your particular attention to those great national objects, which, at the opening of the session, I recommended to your more immediate consideration. The result of your deliberations, respecting the late acquisitions in the East-Indies, has shewn, that you were not more attentive to the immediate benefit arising therefrom in point of revenue, than to the securing, at all events, the permanent commercial interests of this country, and guarding against every possible discouragement to our own manufactures, and to the industry of my subjects. What more remains to be done, for securing the possession of those valuable acquisitions, you will, I doubt not, proceed to provide for, with a convenient dispatch, at your next meeting.

The measures which I have taken, regarding the late unhappy disturbances in North America, have been already laid before you. They have received your approbation; and you have assured me of your firm support in the prosecu-

tion of them. Nothing, in my opinion, could be more likely to enable the well-disposed among my subjects, in that part of the world, effectually to discourage and defeat the designs of the factious and seditious, than the hearty concurrence of every branch of the legislature in the resolution of maintaining the execution of the laws in every part of my dominions. And there is nothing I more ardently wish for, than to see it produce that good effect.

With respect to foreign affairs, my own determination, as well as the assurances given me by the other powers of Europe, continue the same as I communicated to you at the beginning of this session: and, however unsuccessful my attempts have proved for preventing the unfortunate rupture which has happened between Russia and the Porte, I shall not fail to use my good offices towards restoring peace between those powers: and I trust, that the calamities of war will not extend to any other part of Europe.

Gentlemen of the house of commons.

My particular thanks are due to you, as well for the supplies which you have granted me for the services of the current year, as for the provision which you have made for enabling me to discharge the debt incurred upon account of my civil government. Your readiness in relieving me from the difficulties increasing upon me from the continuance of that debt, I shall ever consider as an additional motive for me to endeavour to confine the expences of my civil government within such bounds as the honour of my crown can possibly admit.

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My lords and gentlemen,

It gives me great concern, to be obliged to recommend to you, with more than ordinary earnestness, that you would all, in your several counties, exert your utmost efforts for the maintenance of public peace, and of good order among my people. You must be sensible, that whatever obstructs, in any degree, the regular execution of the laws, or weakens the authority of the magistrate, must lessen the only security, which my people can have for the undisturbed enjoyment of their rights and liberties. From your endeavours in this common cause, I promise myself the most salutary effect: on my part, no countenance or support shall be wanting; for as I have ever made, and ever shall make, our excellent constitution the rule of my own conduct, so shall I always consider it as equally my duty to exert every power, with which that constitution has entrusted me, for preserving it safe from violation of every kind; being fully convinced, that in so doing, I shall most effectually provide for the true interest and happiness of my people.

Then the lord chancellor, by his majesty's command, said;

My lords, and gentlemen.

It is his majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this parliament be prorogued to Wednesday the 14th of June next, to be then here held; and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Wednesday the 14th of June next.

THE MIDDLESEX PETITION*.

*To the king's most excellent majesty.
The humble petition of the freeholders of the county of Middlesex.*

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the freeholders of the county of Middlesex, beg leave, with all affectionate submission and humility, to throw ourselves at your royal feet, and humbly to implore your paternal attention to those grievances, of which this county and the whole nation complain, and those fearful apprehensions with which the whole British empire is most justly alarmed.

With great grief and sorrow, we have long beheld the endeavours of certain evil-minded persons, who attempt to infuse into your royal mind, notions and opinions of the most dangerous and pernicious tendency, and who promote and counsel such measures, as cannot fail to destroy that harmony and confidence, which should ever subsist between a just and virtuous prince and a free and loyal people.

For this disaffected purpose, they have introduced into every part of the administration of our happy, legal constitution, a certain unlimited and indefinite discretionary power; to prevent which is the sole aim of all our laws, and was the sole cause of all those disturbances and revolutions, which formerly distracted this unhappy country; for our ancestors, by their own fatal experience, well knew that in a state where discretion begins, law, liberty, and safety

* Presented to his Majesty at St. James's, May 24, 1769.

end. Under the pretence of this discretion, or, as it was formerly and has been lately called—law of state—we have seen

English subjects, and even a member of the British legislature, arrested by virtue of a general warrant, issued by a secretary of state, contrary to the law of the land—

Their houses rifled and plundered, their papers seized, and used as evidence upon trial—

Their bodies committed to close imprisonment—

The Habeas Corpus eluded—

Trial by Jury discountenanced, and the first law-officer of the crown publicly insinuating that juries are not to be trusted—

Printers punished by the ministry in the supreme court without a trial by their equals, without any trial at all—

The remedy of the law for false imprisonment barred and defeated—

The plaintiff and his attorney, for their appeal to the law of the land, punished by expences and imprisonment, and made by forced engagements to desist from their legal claim.

A writing determined to be a libel by a court where it was not cognizable in the first instance; contrary to law, because all appeal is thereby cut off, and inferior courts and juries influenced by such predetermination—

A person condemned in the said court as the author of the supposed libel unheard, without defence or trial—

Unjust treatment of petitions, by selecting only such parts as might be wrested to criminate the petitioner, and refusing to hear

those which might procure him redress—

The thanks of one branch of the legislature proposed by a minister to be given to an acknowledged offender for his offence, with the declared intention of screening him from law—

Attachments wrested from their original intent of removing obstructions to the proceedings of law, to punish, by sentence of arbitrary fine and imprisonment, without trial or appeal, supposed offences committed out of court—

Perpetual imprisonment of an Englishman without trial, conviction, or sentence, by the same mode of attachment, wherein the same person is at once party, accuser, judge, and jury—

Instead of the ancient and legal civil police, the military introduced at every opportunity, unnecessarily and unlawfully patrolling the streets, to the alarm and terror of the inhabitants—

The lives of many of your majesty's innocent subjects destroyed by military execution—

Such military execution solemnly adjudged to be legal—

Murder abetted, encouraged, and rewarded—

The civil magistracy rendered contemptible by the appointment of improper and incapable persons—

The civil magistrates tampered with by administration, and neglecting and refusing to discharge their duty—

Mobs and riots hired and raised by the ministry, in order to justify and recommend their own illegal proceedings, and to prejudice your majesty's mind by false insinuations against

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against the loyalty of your majesty's subjects—

The freedom of election violated by corrupt and undue influence, by unpunished violence and murder—

The just verdicts of juries, and the opinion of the judges, overruled by false representations to your majesty; and the determinations of the law set aside by new, unprecedented, and dangerous means; thereby leaving the guilty without restraint, and the injured without redress, and the lives of your majesty's subjects at the mercy of every ruffian, protected by administration—

Obsolete and vexatious claims of the crown set on foot for partial and election purposes—

Partial attacks on the liberty of the press: the most daring and pernicious libels against the constitution, and against the liberty of the subject, being allowed to pass unnoticed, whilst the slightest libel against a minister is punished with the utmost rigour—

Wicked attempts to encrease and establish a standing army, by endeavouring to vest in the crown an unlimited power over the militia; which, should they succeed, must, sooner or later, subvert the constitution, by augmenting the power of administration in proportion to their delinquency—

Repeated endeavours to diminish the importance of members of parliament individually, in order to render them more dependant on administration collectively. Even threats having been employed by ministers to suppress the freedom of debate; and the wrath of parliament denounced against measures authorised by the law of the land—

Resolutions of one branch of the legislature, set up as the law of the land, being a direct usurpation of the rights of the two other branches, and therefore a manifest infringement of the constitution—

Public money shamefully squandered and unaccounted for, and all inquiry into the cause of arrears in the civil list prevented by the ministry—

Inquiry into a pay-master's public accounts stopped in the exchequer, tho' the sums unaccounted for by that pay-master amount to above forty millions sterling—

Public loans perverted to private ministerial purposes—

Prostitution of public honours and rewards to men who can neither plead public virtue nor services—

Irreligion and immorality, so eminently discountenanced by your majesty's royal example, encouraged by administration both by example and precept.

The same discretion has been extended by the same evil counsellors to your majesty's dominions in America, and has produced to our suffering fellow subjects in that part of the world, grievances and apprehensions similar to those of which we complain at home.

Most gracious sovereign,

Such are the grievances and apprehensions which have long discontented and disturbed the greatest and best part of your majesty's loyal subjects. Unwilling, however, to interrupt your royal repose, tho' ready to lay down our lives and fortunes for your majesty's service and for the constitution as by law established, we have waited patiently, expecting a constitutional remedy

remedy by the means of our own representatives; but our legal and free choice having been repeatedly rejected, and the right of election now finally taken from us by the unprecedented seating of a candidate who was never chosen by the county, and who, even to become a candidate, was obliged fraudulently to vacate his seat in parliament, under the pretence of an insignificant place, invited thereto by the prior declaration of a minister, that whoever opposed our choice, tho' with but four votes, should be declared member for the county. We see ourselves, by this last act, deprived even of the franchises of Englishmen, reduced to the most abject state of slavery, and left without hopes or means of redress but from your majesty or God.

Deign then, most gracious sovereign, to listen to the prayer of the most faithful of your majesty's subjects; and to banish from your royal favour, trust, and confidence, for ever, those evil and pernicious counsellors, who have endeavoured to alienate the affection of your majesty from your majesty's most sincere and dutiful subjects, and whose suggestions tend to deprive your people of their dearest and most essential rights, and who have traiterously dared to depart from the spirit and letter of those laws which have secured the crown of these realms to the house of Brunswick, in which we make our most earnest prayers to God; that it may continue untarnished to the latest posterity.

(Copy) Signed by 1565 freeholders.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

*The humble petition of the livery of the city of London, in common-hall assembled **

Most gracious sovereign,

WE your majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the livery of the city of London, with all the humility which is due from free subjects to their lawful sovereign, but with all the anxiety which the sense of the present oppressions, and the just dread of future mischiefs, produce in our minds, beg leave to lay before your majesty some of those intolerable grievances, which your people have suffered from the evil conduct of those who have been intrusted with the administration of your majesty's government; and from the secret unremitting influence of the worst of counsellors.

We should be wanting in our duty to your majesty, as well as to ourselves and our posterity, should we forbear to represent to the throne the desperate attempts which have been, and are too successfully made, to destroy that constitution, to the spirit of which we owe the relation which subsists between your majesty and the subjects of these realms, and to subvert those sacred laws, which our ancestors have sealed with their blood.

Your ministers, from corrupt principles, and in violation of every duty, have, by various enumerated means, invaded our invaluable and unalienable right of trial by jury.

* Presented July 5th.

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They have, with impunity, issued general warrants, and violently seized persons and private papers.

They have rendered the laws non-effective to our security, by evading the habeas corpus.

They have caused punishments, and even perpetual imprisonment, to be inflicted, without trial, conviction, or sentence.

They have brought into disrepute the civil magistracy, by the appointment of persons who are, in many respects, unqualified for that important trust, and have thereby purposely furnished a pretence for calling in the aid of a military power.

They avow, and endeavour to establish, a maxim, absolutely inconsistent with our constitution—that “an occasion for *effectually* employing a military force always presents itself, when the civil power is *trifled with or insulted*,” and, by a fatal and false application of this maxim, they have wantonly and wickedly sacrificed the lives of many of your majesty’s innocent subjects, and have prostituted your majesty’s sacred name and authority, to justify, applaud, and recommend their own illegal and bloody actions.

They have screened more than one murderer from punishment, and in its place have unnaturally substituted reward.

They have established numberless unconstitutional regulations and taxations in our colonies. They have caused a revenue to be raised in some of them by prerogative. They have appointed civil law judges to try revenue causes, and

to be paid from out of the condemnation-money.

After having insulted and defeated the law on different occasions, and by different contrivances, both at home and abroad, they have at length completed their design, by violently wresting from the people *the last sacred right we had left*, the right of election, by the unprecedented seating of a candidate, notoriously set up and chosen only by themselves. They have thereby taken from your subjects all hopes of parliamentary redress, and have left us no resource, under God, but in your majesty.

All this they have been able to effect by corruption: by a scandalous misapplication and embezzlement of the public treasure, and a shameful prostitution of public honours and employments: procuring deficiencies of the civil list to be made good without examination; and, instead of punishing, conferring honours on a pay master, the public defaulter of unaccounted millions.

From an unfeigned sense of the duty we owe to your majesty, and to our country, we have ventured thus humbly to lay before the throne these great and important truths, which it has been the business of your ministers to conceal. We most earnestly beseech your majesty to grant us redress. It is for the purpose of redress alone, and for such occasions as the present, that those great and extensive powers are intrusted to the crown by the wisdom of that constitution, which your majesty’s illustrious family was chosen to defend, and which we trust in God it will for ever continue to support.

The

The address of the colony of Virginia.*

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble address of his dutiful and loyal subjects, the house of burgesses of his majesty's ancient colony of Virginia, met in general assembly.

May it please your majesty.

WE your majesty's most loyal, dutiful, and affectionate subjects, the house of burgesses of this your majesty's antient colony of Virginia, now met in general assembly, beg leave, in the humblest manner, to assure your majesty that your faithful subjects of this colony, ever distinguished by their loyalty and firm attachment to your majesty and your royal ancestors, far from countenancing traitors, treasons, or misprisions of treason, are ready at any time to sacrifice our lives and fortunes in defence of your majesty's sacred person and government.

It is with the deepest concern and most heart-felt grief that your majesty's dutiful subjects of this colony find that their loyalty hath been traduced, and that those measures which a just regard for the British constitution (dearer to them than life) made necessary duties, have been misrepresented as rebellious attacks upon your majesty's government.

When we consider that by the established laws and constitution of this colony the most ample provision is made for apprehending and punishing all those who shall dare to engage in any treasonable prac-

tices against your majesty, or disturb the tranquillity of government, we cannot without horror think of the new, unusual, and permit us, with all humility to add, unconstitutional and illegal mode, recommended to your majesty, of seizing and carrying beyond sea the inhabitants of America suspected of any crime, and of trying such persons in any other manner than by the antient and long established course of proceeding; for how truly deplorable must be the case of a wretched American, who, having incurred the displeasure of any one in power, is dragged from his native home and his dearest domestic connections, thrown into a prison, not to await his trial before a court, jury, or judges, from a knowledge of whom he is encouraged to hope for speedy justice, but to exchange his imprisonment in his country for fetters amongst strangers: conveyed to a distant land where no friend, no relation, will alleviate his distresses or minister to his necessities, and where no witness can be found to testify his innocence; shunned by the reputable and honest, and consigned to the society and converse of the wretched and the abandoned, he can only pray that he may soon end his misery with his life.

Truly alarmed at the fatal tendency of these pernicious counsels, and with hearts filled with anguish by such dangerous invasions of our dearest privileges, we presume to prostrate ourselves at the foot of your royal throne, beseeching your majesty, as our king and father, to

* Presented to his majesty, by the agent for the colony.

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avert from your faithful and loyal subjects of America those miseries which must necessarily be the consequence of such measures.

After expressing our firm confidence in your royal wisdom and goodness, permit us to assure your majesty that the most fervent prayers of your people of this colony are daily addressed to the Almighty that your majesty's reign may be long and prosperous over Great Britain and all your dominions; and that after death your majesty may taste the fullest fruition of eternal bliss, and that a descendant of your illustrious house may reign over the extended British empire until time shall be no more.

The petition of the county of Surry.*

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble petition of the Freeholders of the county of Surry.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the freeholders of the county of Surry, from a grateful sense of the inestimable blessings which this nation has enjoyed under the mild and equal government of your majesty, and your illustrious predecessors of the house of Brunswick, and from a steady attachment, zeal, and affection to your royal person and family, think it our duty to join with our injured fellow-subjects in humbly offering to your majesty our complaints of the measures, adopted by pernicious counsellors,

who, we apprehend, have countenanced and advised a violation of the first principle of the constitution.

The right of election in the people, which is the security of all their rights, is also the foundation of your majesty's; we cannot, therefore, forbear being alarmed when we see that first principle violated in the late instance of the Middlesex election.

We have seen, royal sire, with great concern, an application of the freeholders of the county of Middlesex, made by their humble petition to the house of commons, complaining of that measure, defeated; and it is with the utmost reluctance we now find ourselves constrained to appeal to your sacred person, from whose justice and goodness we can alone hope for redress.

We, therefore, most humbly implore your majesty, that you would be graciously pleased to give us such relief as to your royal wisdom shall seem meet, by an exertion of that prerogative which the constitution has so properly placed in your majesty's hands.

And your majesty's petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

The petition of the house of assembly of the colony of Massachusetts-Bay, to his majesty †.

Most gracious Sovereign.

WE, your majesty's most dutiful and faithful subjects the representatives of the ancient and loyal colony of the Massachu-

* Presented to his majesty August 24th.

† Presented by Dennys De Berdt, esq. agent for the colony.

sett's-Bay, impressed with the deepest gratitude to almighty God, for calling to the British succession your illustrious family, and so firmly establishing your majesty on the throne of your royal progenitors: and being abundantly convinced of your majesty's grace and clemency, most humbly implore the royal favour, while we briefly represent our grievances, which your majesty alone under God, can redress.

We are constrained in duty to your majesty, and in faithfulness to our constituents, to lay before your majesty our complaints of his excellency Sir Francis Bernard, bart. your majesty's governor of this colony, whose whole administration appears to have been repugnant, not only to your majesty's service, and the welfare of your subjects in the colony, but even to the first principles of the British constitution.

From his first arrival here, he has in his speeches, and other public acts, treated the representative body with contempt.

He has in his public speeches charged both houses of the general assembly expressly with oppugnation against the royal authority, declaring that they had left gentlemen out of the council, only for their fidelity to the crown.

He has from time to time indiscreetly and wantonly exercised the prerogative of the crown, in the repeated negative of counsellors of an unblemished reputation, and duly elected by a great majority, some of them by the unanimous suffrage of both houses of assembly.

He has declared that certain seats at the council board shall be

kept vacant, 'till certain gentlemen, who are his favourites, shall be re-elected.

He has unconstitutionally interfered with, and unduly influenced elections, particularly in the choice of an agent for the colony.

He has very abruptly displaced, divers gentlemen of worth, for no apparent reason, but because they voted in the general assembly with freedom, and against his measures.

He has, in an unwarrantable manner, taken upon himself the exercise of your majesty's royal prerogative, in granting a charter for a college, contrary to an express vote of the house of representatives, and without ever asking the advice of your majesty's council.

He has practised the sending over depositions to the ministry, privately taken, against gentlemen of character here, without giving the persons accused the least notice of his purposes and proceedings.

He has very injuriously represented your majesty's loving subjects of this colony in general, as having an ill temper prevailing among them, as disaffected to your majesty's government, and intending to bring the authority of parliament into contempt. And by such false representations he has been greatly instrumental, as this house humbly conceive, in exciting jealousies, and disturbing that harmony and mutual affection which before happily subsisted, and we pray God may again subsist, between your majesty's subjects in Great Britain and America.

He has, in his letters to one of your majesty's ministers, unjustly charged the majority of your majesty's faithful council in the colony,

lony, with principles of authority in consequence of whence

He has another of falsely deposed, laid, and enrolled, seize your majesty in the out of your

Such and circumscribed from a general trust in received were made consequences true and referred the other has literary for port your the execution measure your majesty's parliament, lutions, had been confusions, stances required purpose

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lony, with having avowed the principles of opposition to the authority of parliament, and acted in concert with a party from whence such opposition originated.

He has also, in his letters to another of your majesty's ministers falsely declared, that a plan was laid, and a number of men actually enrolled, in the town of Boston, to seize your majesty's castle William in the harbour of the same out of your majesty's hands.

Such representations of the state and circumstances of this colony, from a gentleman of the highest trust in it, will of necessity be received with full credit, 'till they are made to appear false. And in consequence thereof, your majesty's true and loyal subjects have suffered the reproach, as well as other hardships, of having a military force stationed here to support your majesty's authority, and the execution of the laws; which measure has been approved of by your majesty's two houses of parliament, as appears in their resolutions, that the town of Boston, had been in a state of disorder and confusion, and that the circumstances of the colony were such as required a military force for the purposes above mentioned.

Having been a principal instrument, as we apprehend, in procuring this military force, your majesty's said governor, in an unprecedented manner, as though he had designed to irritate to the highest degree, ordered the very room which is appropriated for the meeting of the representatives in the general assembly, which was never used for any other purpose, and where their records are kept, to be employed as a barrack for

the common soldiers. And the centinels were so posted, that your majesty's council, and the justices of the courts of law, were daily interrupted and challenged in their proceedings to the business of their several departments.

He has endeavoured, contrary to the express design of an act of parliament, to quarter your majesty's troops in the body of the town of Boston, while the barracks, provided by the government, at the castle within the town, remained useless. And for purposes manifestly evasive of the said act, he unwarrantably appointed an officer to provide quarters for the troops, otherwise than is therein prescribed.

After having dissolved the general assembly at a most critical season, and while they were employed in the most necessary and important business of the colony, he arbitrarily refused to call another for the space of ten months, and until the time appointed in the royal charter for the calling the general assembly, against the repeated dutiful petitions of the people.

It appears by his letters to the earl of Hillsborough, your majesty's secretary of state, that he has endeavoured to overthrow the present constitution of government in this colony, and to have the people deprived of their invaluable charter; rights, which they and their ancestors have happily enjoyed under your majesty's administration, and those of your royal predecessors.

By the means aforesaid, and many others that might be enumerated, he has rendered his administration odious to the whole body of the people, and has entirely alien-

alienated their affections from him, and thereby wholly destroyed that confidence in a governor, which your majesty's service indispensably requires.

Wherefore we most humbly intreat your majesty, that his excellency Sir Francis Bernard, baronet, may be for ever removed from the government of this province; and that your majesty would be graciously pleased to place one in his stead worthy to serve the greatest and best monarch on earth.

And the representatives of the colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

THOMAS CUSHING, speaker.

The speech of his excellency the lord lieutenant of Ireland, to both houses of parliament at Dublin, October 1721.

My lords and gentlemen,

IT is with particular satisfaction that in obedience to his majesty's commands, I meet the first parliament, limited in duration, that ever assembled in this kingdom.

I am confident that you are come together with the justest sentiments of duty and affection to our most excellent sovereign, who has gratified the earnest wishes of his faithful subjects of Ireland with that great improvement of their constitution.

I flatter myself that the Protestant interest has already found the happy effects of it; and that the many gracious marks which you have experienced of his majesty's paternal regard, will animate your deliberations, and direct them to

all such measures as may secure to you the blessings you enjoy.

Since the last session of parliament, the royal family has been increased by the birth of another prince; interested as you are in the happiness of his majesty, and of his illustrious house, you will receive, with the sincerest pleasure, a communication of so joyful an event.

Gentlemen of the house of commons,

I have ordered the proper accounts and estimates to be laid before you, and doubt not you will make every necessary provision for the honour of his majesty's government, and the safety and welfare of this kingdom.

I am extremely happy to inform you, that the exigencies of government have required only a very moderate use to be made of that confidential credit which was granted by the last parliament, and I trust you will always find, on my part, the same attention to public economy.

My lords and gentlemen,

As the wisest nations have ever deemed times of peace the best season for improving their civil polity, and providing for their security, I recommend it to you not to neglect the present favourable opportunity.

The strength and riches of a country are in proportion to the number of its industrious inhabitants; and as a religious and virtuous education is the surest guide to industry and good morals, you will not be unmindful of that useful and charitable institution, the Protestant charter schools, you

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will consider the original design, and great end of them : you will observe whether their course corresponds with their first plan, and you will correct any defects which experience may point out to you.

The linen manufacture is an object that will always engage your utmost attention ; I see with the truest pleasure that source of opulence daily extending itself over this kingdom : be it your care to preserve it in full credit, and that neither fraud or negligence, which have so often proved fatal to the most flourishing branches of commerce and manufacture, be suffered to defeat this national acquisition.

I must recommend to your most serious consideration, what further laws may be necessary to prevent the pernicious practice of the clandestine running of goods.—The great lengths to which it has been carried of late, and the obstruction which the revenue officers frequently meet with in the execution of their duty, require some effectual remedy.—The suppression of these abuses will have a double effect, as, at the same time that it increases the public stock and national strength, it will afford a just and equitable assistance to the honest citizen and fair trader.

In these and in all your consultations, I am persuaded you will proceed with that unanimity and wisdom, which matters of such high importance require.—You cannot fail by such conduct to meet with his Majesty's most favourable countenance and approbation ; and you may in every thing rely on my best assistance, not only from the duty I owe to the king, but from

the sincere affection which I bear to this kingdom.

The petition of the county of York

To the king's most excellent majesty.

May it please your majesty,

WE your majesty's most loyal and faithful subjects, the freeholders of the county of York, equally solicitous for the honour of your majesty's government, and for the preservation of our most happy and excellent constitution, beg leave to approach your royal throne, and humbly to lay before your majesty the anxiety of our minds on a matter of the greatest national concern.

As the county of York has been eminently distinguished by its zeal for your majesty's illustrious family, so has it ever been strongly attached to that system of laws, which your majesty's ancestors were called to protect. By these laws we are taught, that it is the undoubted right of the subject to petition the king, and the exercise of that right becomes the duty of the subject whenever any ill-advised measure threatens to impair that equal state of legal liberty, for which this nation has long been respected abroad, and by which it has been made happy at home.

We find ourselves called to the exercise of that right, and the discharge of that duty, by apprehensions of the tendency of that measure, which has nominated a representative to the county of Middlesex, in opposition to the votes of a great majority of the freeholders, and in prejudice of that freedom of election which your faithful

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mons are entitled to by the laws and constitution of this country.

We respect, as we ought, the authority of the house of commons; and their just privileges will ever be dear to the people; but the house of commons derives its existence from the people, who never have intrusted that house with an authority to supersede the choice of the electors, or to create, by a vote, an incapacity unknown to the law. If this were the privilege of the house of commons, it would soon render that house a body chosen by its own members, and not the representatives of the people. It is, therefore, with unspeakable concern, that we are obliged to represent to your majesty, that this event hath produced a situation new and extraordinary in this government, *the representatives of the people in opposition to the people.*

This situation would be miserable indeed, had not the wisdom of our ancestors provided, even for this grievance, a regular and constitutional remedy. The power of assembling and dissolving parliaments is undoubtedly one of the rights vested in your majesty, for the welfare of the people, and by their consent. The voice of a loyal people now calls for the exercise of this power; and our most essential rights are to be preserved by it.

Permit us then, royal Sir, to implore your majesty to restore the confidence of your people in the justice of parliament, by sending them to a new choice of representatives, which will give your loyal subjects an opportunity of demonstrating their zeal for the constitution, by a choice of men, who

will guard the honour of the crown and support the rights of the people.

Copy of the Wiltshire petition to his majesty.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the freeholders of the county of Wilts, deeply impressed with the justice of the complaints of our fellow subjects, which have been already laid before your majesty, prostrate ourselves at your majesty's feet in hopes of redress.

We apprehend the freedom of election of persons to serve in parliament has been violated in the most open and daring manner.

Some of your majesty's most peaceable subjects have been murdered at the place of election by evil disposed persons, who, after having been convicted thereof, have escaped with impunity.

The most sacred and inestimable privilege of Britons (their right to a constitutional representation in parliament) has been set aside, and, by a precedent of the most dangerous nature, a member of the house of commons has been imposed on the county of Middlesex, for whom the majority of the freeholders never gave their voice.

These facts in particular we think it our duty to represent to your majesty, relying upon your paternal love and tenderness for the rights of your subjects; that you will be graciously pleased by such exercise of your legal prerogative as to your royal wisdom shall seem meet, to manifest your majesty's disapprobation of their proceedings and

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and thereby restore quiet to the minds of your people.

And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

The Somersetshire petition.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble petition of the freeholders of the county of Somerset.

YOUR majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the freeholders of the county of Somerset, ever firmly attached to your majesty's person and family, approach your royal presence with a perfect confidence that their just and lawful petitions will always find an easy access to the throne of justice.

If their silence at this alarming crisis would not be construed into an approbation of the measures long adopted by your majesty's ministers, (a particular detail of which will be tedious to enumerate): if such a conduct was not highly criminal and unworthy the character of Britons, they would save your majesty the pain of hearing the complaints of an injured people, and wait with patience and resignation the return of more happy times.

They cannot help regretting a loss of those blessings which Providence ordained to this nation; when it placed your majesty on the throne: they see those royal virtues, which ought to constitute the happiness of a people, counteracted by the depravity of the age, and treachery of wicked counsellors. What greater evil can befall a state, than an attack on its liberty and security, from those who are intended to be its guardians and protectors? In this dreadful situation your people find themselves;

victorious over foreign powers, they are in danger of destruction from domestic enemies. They have seen a new and unwarrantable doctrine established, which shakes the whole fabric of this once happy constitution; a precedent patronized by your majesty's ministers, and confirmed by the decision of the representatives of the kingdom in parliament assembled. They have seen a member of the house of commons elected by that house in opposition to the voice of the real electors, whom in such case the law of the land has declared to be the freeholders of Great Britain.

Thus alarmed for their long established rights and privileges, and despairing of a remedy from those who ought to administer it, they apply to that hand which alone can yield them redress. They humbly and earnestly pray that your majesty will be graciously pleased to remove those ministers from your councils, and that your majesty will direct, that in which your people can no longer place a confidence; but on the contrary, from a fatal experience of its principles, have reason to expect still greater and more dangerous innovations on the liberties of this country.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble petition of the mayor, freemen, freeholders, and inhabitants of the city of Exeter.

May it please your majesty,

IN this season of general anxiety for the constitution of government in this realm, with hearts full

of untainted loyalty, and with hopes of redress founded on justice, as well as on your majesty's gracious and frequent declarations of your constant care for the happiness of your people, we presume to look up to the throne for relief.

It is with surprize, sorrow, and resentment, that we perceive one of the essential principles of our liberties—the most sacred of the rights of your majesty's freeborn subjects! threatened with destruction.

We have seen with the deepest concern, a determination of the H— of C—, which would render a man ineligible into that house, who, by the law of the land, was eligible: we have seen them refuse that man a seat in the house, although he was chosen by a great majority of votes, confessedly legal; and we have seen them admit another, as a representative of the county of Middlesex, contrary to the sense of the freeholders, and contrary to a great majority of legal votes at the election.

Permit us, royal Sir, to declare, that we know no house of commons but of the people's electing; that we know no representative but such only who is chosen by the majority of legal votes. This right of election is inherent in your majesty's subjects; a right which they cannot forfeit; it is of the essence of government, and prior to every delegated authority whatsoever; to counteract it, therefore, is highly injurious to the subject; it is repugnant to the true honour of

the crown, for it tends to confusion, it threatens the very being of the British constitution.

It is with grief and indignation that we derive this alarming injury from those who have no corporate existence, but by the majority of legal voters, and who were created on purpose to guard the sacred rights of their constituents.

We feel an alleviation of our distress, when we recollect that the wisdom of our ancestors, foreseeing the possibility of such a defection of the H— of C—, hath left a constitutional remedy in the royal prerogative, by a dissolution of that house: and we rejoice to think, that this remedy now lies in the breast of a sovereign, who has graciously assured us, that his first care is the good of his people.

We will not therefore imagine, that our prayer, which is the prayer of millions, can be rejected, or, disregarded; but, animated by that benign idea of our king, which long since was impressed upon our hearts, we will wait in full confidence of receiving that constitutional relief, which alone is adequate to the unnatural treatment we have received from the deputies of the people.

And may he, in whose hands are the hearts of kings, guard your majesty from the errors and falshoods of weak, or unfaithful counsellors, and incline your royal mind to adopt such measures as may secure the affections, and heart-felt loyalty of the general body of the nation!

The

The petition of the freeholders of the county of Buckingham.*

To the king's most excellent majesty.

WE, your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the freeholders of the county of Buckingham, beg leave to approach your majesty with unfeigned assurances of our zeal and attachment to your sacred person, and to the principles of that glorious revolution, in consequence of which the crown was, by our great deliverer, by the house of peers, and by the representatives of the people, freely and legally chosen, settled on your majesty's family as the most effectual security for the full enjoyment of all our rights and franchises.

We presume, at the same time, most humbly to remonstrate that it is declared by Magna Charta, that "no freeman shall be disseized of his freehold or liberties, but by lawful judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land." And it is declared by the Bill of Rights, that "election of members of parliament ought to be free." By virtue of these two sacred laws, and other fundamental principles of the constitution, all the electors of Great Britain have an undoubted right to elect, by a majority of legal votes, any person for their representative, who is not rendered incapable of that high trust by the law of the land. We are thoroughly sensible that the house of commons may also judicially determine upon the election of members of their own

body: but the law of the land is superior to, and cannot be superseded by any resolution of either house of parliament. No new incapacity can be enacted, except by the authority of the whole legislature. The claim of either house of parliament to make ordinances which should have the force of laws, hath once already proved fatal to the crown, and to the constitution; and will we fear, if the exercise of it be tolerated, prove again destructive to both.

Notwithstanding which, in defiance and contempt of these our just and ancient rights, coeval with the very being of the house of commons, two days before the last election of the county of Middlesex, your majesty's servants thought proper, either by their own authority, or by their advice to your majesty, to confer a nominal office on a gentleman, to vacate his seat in parliament, with the avowed purpose of bringing him into the house of commons, as knight of the shire for the said county, by a small number of votes against a great majority of legal electors, which purpose of theirs hath since been fatally carried into full execution.

Justly alarmed at an attempt of this formidable nature thus planned and avowed by divers evil counsellors and ministers, duty to our sovereign and to our injured country calls upon us to represent in this manner, with all possible respect, the dangerous consequences with which this violation of the rights of free election must be attended;

* Presented November 29th.

and we earnestly implore the intervention of your majesty's wisdom and goodness to afford, by legal and constitutional methods, the means for effectually removing this unexampled grievance, together with every other just cause of uneasiness and complaint, thereby securing to us the continuance of our fundamental rights, and establishing your throne in the grateful hearts of an united people.

*The Westminster petition.**

To the king's most excellent majesty.

The humble petition of the electors of the city and liberty of Westminster, within the county of Middlesex.

Sherweth,

THAT your petitioners having, in common with the rest of your majesty's loyal subjects, felt the weight of a variety of grievances and oppressions, cannot longer be silent on the subject of a late violent and most alarming invasion of their liberties, which threatens the certain and speedy annihilation of our excellent constitution itself.

Your petitioners do, therefore, most humbly beg leave to lay before your majesty, that the freeholders of the county of Middlesex did, in obedience to your majesty's writ of election, on the 13th day of April last, freely and indifferently elect John Wilkes, Esq; a person duly qualified according to the statutes in that behalf made and

provided; that such election was ascertained by a poll regularly taken by the sheriff; by which poll it appeared that 1143 freeholders voted for the said John Wilkes, esq. and only 296 for Henry Lawes Luttrell, esq. that the sheriff, according to the directions of the statute, and the oath taken by all returning officers, declared the election to have fallen upon the said John Wilkes, esq. and returned him to parliament one of the representatives of the said county; that a majority of the house of commons (whom your petitioners have great reason to apprehend are under the immediate influence of your majesty's ministers,) have declared the said election and return to be null and void; and the said Henry Lawes Luttrell they have admitted and sworn in representative of the county. That your petitioners affirm these proceedings to be unjust, injurious to the freedom of election, a violation of the rights of the people, and subversive of the first principles of the British constitution. That your petitioners have no hope of redress but from the throne; and that they do most humbly and earnestly implore your majesty, as the great guardian of the liberties of this free nation, to interpose your royal authority by dissolving this parliament, and calling another as speedily as may be.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

* Presented December 6th.

Peti-

Petition of the Borough of Southwark.*

To the king's most excellent majesty.

May it please your majesty.

WE, your majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the electors of the ancient town and borough of Southwark, think we should be wanting in our duty to your majesty's person and government, as well as the veneration we entertain for our most excellent constitution, if at this time of national discontent we did not with all humility approach your royal person with complaints of measures which have filled the minds of your majesty's best affected subjects with the deepest anxiety.

The borough of Southwark has been ever distinguished by its attachment to your majesty's illustrious family, and to those principles of liberty which gave birth to the glorious Revolution; that revolution was incomplete, and the laws of this kingdom in danger, till your majesty's ancestors of the house of Brunswick were called in for their protection; under them we have seen our civil and religious liberties further strengthened and confirmed; and we acknowledge with great gratitude, many distinguishing marks of your majesty's royal and paternal regard for your people, at the same time that we lament the influence of pernicious counsellors, who have violated the laws of this free constitution.

It would be easy to point out a variety of instances in support of this allegation, but we shall not

now trouble your majesty with an enumeration, being desirous at this time to confine ourselves to a more recent transaction, which, we humbly conceive, is destructive of our dearest rights.

There is no principle of the constitution of more consequence than that clear, and, till lately, indisputed one, which fixes in the people the right of electing their own representatives; notwithstanding which we have seen, with the utmost concern, an officer in your majesty's army confirmed knight of the shire for the county of Middlesex, in opposition to the choice of a very great majority of the freeholders, who voted for a person not incapacitated by any one law of the land.

The members of the house of commons, we apprehend, possess no privileges but what are derived from their electors, and were granted for their sake: they never gave them a power to render ineffectual their own free choice, nor to create, by a vote, an incapacity unknown to the law of the land. If therefore this precedent be not reversed, we may live to see a house of commons chosen by its own members, to the destruction of that right of election which the constitution has so properly placed in the people.

Desirous of seeing the constitution and liberty of these kingdoms transmitted unimpaired to our descendants, we most humbly implore your majesty that you will be pleased to restore the confidence of your people in the justice of par-

* Presented by Sir Joseph Mawbey and others, December 22.

liament, by granting them the only remedy they can now hope for, the dissolution of the present parliament, and an opportunity of making a new choice of representatives.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

The lord lieutenant of Ireland's speech, to both houses of parliament, at Dublin, on Tuesday the 26th day of December, 1769.

My lords, and gentlemen,

THE attention you have shewn to the great objects which have been particularly recommended by me to your consideration, and the provisions which have been made for the safety and security of this kingdom, call upon me not only to express my approbation of, but to thank you, as I now do, for your conduct in these particulars.

Gentlemen of the house of commons,

It is with great pleasure that I thank you, in his majesty's name, for the supplies which you have granted, and the provision which you have made for the present establishment, the public credit, and the safety of this kingdom.

When I first met you in parliament, as I knew, and could rely upon it, that nothing could move from his majesty, but what would be expressive of his constant and ardent desire to maintain and preserve every constitutional right to his people, I little thought that any thing would happen, during the course of this session, that could possibly affect the just rights of his majesty, and of the crown of Great Britain, so as to afford his majesty any just cause of dissatisfaction, and make it necessary for me, spe-

cially, to assert and vindicate those rights.

It is therefore with great concern that I have seen and observed in the votes and journals of the house of commons, printed by your order, a late proceeding by you of such a nature, and of such effect, with respect to the rights of his majesty, and the crown of Great Britain, as to make it necessary for me, on this day, and in this place, to animadvert thereupon: I mean the vote and resolution of the 21st day of November last, by which you, gentlemen of the house of commons, declare that a bill, intitled, an act for granting to his majesty the several duties, rates, impositions, and taxes therein particularly expressed, to be applied to the payment of the interest of the sums therein provided for, and towards the discharge of the said principal sums, in such manner as is therein directed, which had been duly certified from hence to his majesty, and, by his majesty, had been transmitted in due form, under the great seal of Great Britain, and which had been read a first time by you, and which was rejected by you on that day, was so rejected because it did not take its rise in your house.

This vote, and this resolution of yours, declaring that the said bill was rejected, because it did not take its rise in your house, being contrary to the acts of parliament of this kingdom of the 10th of Henry VII. and the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, and the usage and practice ever since, and intrenching upon the just rights of his majesty, and the crown of Great Britain, to transmit such bills to be treated of and considered in parliament

ment here: I am now to assert his majesty's royal authority, and the rights of the crown of Great-Britain, in this respect, and in such a manner, as may be most public and permanent; and therefore I do here, in full parliament, make my public protest against the said vote and resolution of the house of commons, by which you, gentlemen of that house, declare that the said bill was rejected by you, because it did not take its rise in your house, and against the entries of the said vote and resolution, which remain in the journals of the house of commons: and I do require the clerk of this house now to read my said protest, and to enter it in the journals of this house that it may there remain to future ages, as a vindication of the undoubted right and authority of his majesty and the rights of the crown of Great-Britain in this particular.

In this protest, I think myself warranted in all respects; and if it needed, as I conceive it doth not, any other strength than that which it derives from the statutes which I have mentioned, and from the usage and practice ever since, it would be found in that precedent which appears in the journals of this house of the third day of November, 1692, under the reign of that glorious and immortal prince, king William III. the great deliverer of these kingdoms, and the constant and magnanimous assertor and preserver of the civil and religious rights of mankind.

*After which the Lord Chancellor, by his Excellency's command, said,
My Lords and gentlemen,*

IT is his excellency the lord lieutenant's pleasure, that this par-

liament be prorogued to Tuesday the twentieth day of March next, to be then here held: and this parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday the twentieth day of March next.

N. B. The addresses and petitions to the throne from different counties, cities, and boroughs, in the course of this year, being so very numerous, we have been obliged to omit many of them for want of room; a circumstance, we imagine, that will not be regretted by our readers, as they are all on the same subject, and consequently, (at this period) generally known. We have, therefore, been attentive only to collect those from the most capital counties and cities; such as are different in their contents, and such as have been considered of importance.—

POSTSCRIPT.

THE editors of this work, flatter themselves, their readers will consider them as historians without prejudice, and politicians divested of the spirit of party. In this light they wish to appear; nor do they doubt, but their integrity and disinterestedness, respecting public transactions, will be fully manifested. It is their business to record matters of fact, just as they find them, leaving it to their readers to judge for themselves.—This declaration will, it is hoped, be a sufficient apology for the insertion of any article (even in future) which may happen to oppose popular opinion, or popular prejudice.—Whatever may be thought of the following *Protest* of the inhabitants of the town of *Liverpool*, we considered it as our duty to give it a place here.

Liverpool,

*Liverpool, Dec. 12, 1769.
The Protest of the Town of Liver-
pool, against the Petition now so-
liciting in the said Town, desiring
his Majesty, for certain Reasons, to
dissolve the present Parliament *.*

WHEREAS a petition to his Majesty hath been resolved on by a small, partial, and inconsiderable meeting of the inhabitants of this town, who have presumed to charge the House of Commons with an unjust and erroneous determination upon the merits of the late election for Middlesex, insinuating that the said House have assumed to themselves a most arbitrary, unreasonable, and unprecedented power in the expulsion of John Wilkes, esq. and by their resolution, rendered him incapable of being elected a member in the present parliament; which resolution they boldly assert to be a manifest violation of the rights of the electors of Great Britain, and a most flagrant attack upon the liberty of the subject; all which acts they think so highly injurious to the state, that they have prayed his majesty to exert, on this occasion, that mighty power which is vested in him, by virtue of his royal prerogative, to dissolve the present parliament.

And whereas this petition, and many others of the like kind, and by the like means, have been ob-

tained to serve the sinister views of factious and designing men, who, with much industry, and equal dissingenuity, have alarmed and disquieted the minds of many well-disposed subjects, and taught them to complain of matters that are neither within their cognizance or understanding, and by such artful measures, have provoked them to ask what his Majesty, in his wisdom and mercy, it is hoped, will never grant.

And as our own history furnishes us with many examples of the evil tendency of such complaints, the unhappy effects of such petitions, and the fatal consequences of listening to such ill-advised counsellors.

We, therefore, the mayor, aldermen, common-council, clergy, gentlemen, merchants, tradesmen, and other principal inhabitants of this town, apprehending, that if this petition should reach the throne, our silence may be construed into assent, and that we may be supposed to have espoused these dangerous and unconstitutional measures, and be therefore sharers of the shame, if not partakers of the guilt, with those who cannot, or will not, see the mighty evils which the folly of their opinions, and the rashness of their petitions, may bring upon the state, think it our bounden duty to proclaim to the public, our utter abhorrence to the manner and mat-

* Presented to his majesty, January 5, 1770. Notwithstanding which, a petition from the freemen, and principal inhabitants of the town of Liverpool was presented to his majesty by their representatives in parliament on Wednesday January the 17th. And it is confidently asserted, that this petition was signed by upwards of one thousand of the freemen, which number is said to be a majority.

ter of these petitions. We do acknowledge it to be true, and we boast our happiness therein, that it is the right of the subject to petition the throne, or either House of Parliament, whenever the people are oppressed, or the state wants reformation; but herein great heed should be taken that the grievances are real, the petitioners competent judges, and the remedy asked adequate and constitutional. Innumerable are the instances of petitions that have been made by the commons of England to their house of representatives, for obtaining just and necessary restrictions upon the prerogative of the crown; but neither history nor experience have furnished us with one instance, that the people of England have applied to the throne to interfere with the privilege of their representatives, to correct the judgments of either house of parliament. We hold it as an inestimable blessing to the commons of this land, that, concerning the rights of the electors, and the merits of the elected, the judicial power is vested in the house of representatives, and them alone; and herein their power must be absolute and definitive; for, as an house of parliament, they can have no superior: consequently, from their judgment there can be no appeal.

That in matters concerning their own privileges, the good government of their own members, and the support of their own dignity, brought properly in judgment before them, their resolutions are the law, founded in custom and ancient usage.

It would therefore, be the highest folly and presumption in us to assert, that the House of Commons

have, in the instances complained of, exercised any other than a constitutional power properly vested in them, and by usage established; nor can we see that the present House of Commons, in their late determination, hath, in the least, invaded, or denied, the rights of voting to the freeholders of Middlesex.

For, the determining the merits of the elected, or the fairness of the conduct and justice in the proceedings of the electors, are very different, in our poor opinions, from perverting or annihilating the real rights of the voters; the judicial power, in the two first instances, are properly lodged in the House of Commons, and by them exercised in support of the dignity and freedom of the electors.

As to the power of the House of Commons in expelling a Member of their own House, for offences committed in Parliament, there are so many precedents upon the Journals to this purpose, that it would be tedious, and as unnecessary to recite them, as it is ridiculous to doubt the authority on which these stand; and, as to the incapacity which followed the expulsion, in this case, it is, and must be the necessary consequence, or the expulsion would be nugatory, and of no effect; for, as every court of justice hath laws and customs to support its own dignity and authority, would it not be the grossest absurdity to imagine the House of Parliament to be without equal power, to support its own authority, and enforce its judgments? The House of Commons was originally, and from the first constitution of the nation, one of the representatives of the three estates of the realm, and

and a part of parliament; and what is done by either House, according to the law and usage of parliament, is properly and indisputably part of the law of the land.

We do most readily agree, that a parliament may err; for they are not infallible; but the law hath provided a remedy against their errors, and a way to reform them; one session of parliament may reform the errors of the last, and a subsequent parliament may rectify the errors of a preceding parliament; but for the friends of liberty to petition the king to exert his prerogative against the representatives of the people, in support of that liberty, appears a solecism too absurd for us to support. If a dissolution of parliament is to be wished or expected in the present case, and at the instance of a minority of the House of Commons, because they have differed from the majority, in a matter of judicial opinion, may we not soon expect to see this high piece of prerogative converted into a political engine to detrude one administration, and force another into the king's closet, which, we believe, is the only thing intended?

The tumultuous and riotous pro-

ceedings which have lately threatened the happiness of this kingdom, in many instances, are not so much to be attributed to the loose and violent opinions of the populace, as to the infamous and fashionable practice, of drawing into contempt, and disrepute, those who ought to have rule and government over us; and surely nothing can be more dangerous, or tend more immediately to weaken this government, than, at such a season, to interrupt that good harmony that ever ought, and, thanks be to God, does subsist between his majesty and his parliament.

To say that the House of Commons is partial, unjust, or corrupt, or does any thing out of malice, is, in our opinion, highly criminal, and tends to raise a scandal upon the whole nation, whose representatives they are. For these reasons we cannot approve the matter, manner, or intent, of these petitions, and hope to be justified in making public the reasons for our dissent thereto. Our actions in the most perilous and critical times, have proved us to be faithful subjects; and, we trust, our conduct and candour, in this affair, must prove us to be good citizens.

JUDICIAL

JUDICIAL ARTICLES.

CONTAINING

ABSTRACTS of Remarkable Criminal TRIALS,

AND

ACCOUNTS of other Singular TRANSACTIONS in the
COURTS of JUSTICE.

The Trial of Laurence Balfe and Edward M'Quirk, for aiding and abetting in the Murder of Mr. George Clarke, at Brentford Election, Dec. 8, 1768.

MR. Jones, the first evidence examined, deposes nothing material till his seeing Balfe at the Shakespeare tavern, Covent-garden; when he gives the following relation: Mr. Allen told me, that one of the people concerned in the riot at Brentford that day had told him, that he would meet him at the Shakespeare at ten o'clock, or thereabouts. Mr. Allen was obliged at that time to go to the House of Commons, and he desired me to go and stay there. I and Mr. Hannam accordingly went there. After staying some time, I began to suppose that the man had deceived Mr. Allen, and would not come. I was just going away, when a person sent up to know whether a gentleman was up-stairs that had appointed to meet him. I desired him to come up. Balfe came into the room, and I knew him immediately to be one of those people that I saw from the Hustings at Brentford that day; then Mr. Hannam was gone. When he came into the room, he told me he

was not the man that appointed to meet Mr. Allen there, but he was his friend, and he would come. I told him that person (meaning Mr. Allen) would be there soon, but it was no matter, we were friends, and he might relate what he had to say. Quirk soon after coming, I addressed myself chiefly to him, and asked if he intended going to Brentford next day. He said, he could not tell that; he was afraid there was such work done that day, that he believed it would be better for him to go to Dover in his way to Calais next morning. I had very little more conversation with him with regard to that, mentioning only some particular parts of the riot, as I was a spectator. Balfe mentioned to me that he was hired by Broughton, and that he was to have a guinea for going down, whether it was for one day or two. He said, that though he was there, he had not struck any person, but it was such bad work, that he would not go down the next day if he was wanted. He told me he had no dinner, as he was called down to clear the hustings to make way for Sir William Beauchamp's friends. I told him then, that he might go and eat some beef-steaks below stairs if he chose

chose it. I stayed till Mr. Allen came, and then I went away. I gave information to Mr. Horne and others of this transaction, who thought it proper to secure these people. I returned with these gentlemen, and we took them to Sir John Fielding's. We mentioned the affair to him; he desired we would take a constable, and secure them till the next day. When M'Quirk found that I was not his friend, he denied great part of what he had before confessed. He did not deny his being there, but denied his either striking or beating any person. Mr. Jones being asked who he was, said he was a magistrate, resided in, and was the possessor of Fanmouth-castle in Glamorganshire; and had an estate of about 3000l. a year in Wales.

Miles Barton Allen, esq. was the next evidence, and the testimony he gave was in substance as follows: Between two and three o'clock, I observed a very large party; (I don't know whether it is applicable to this point; I saw a parcel of butchers :) they went round the hustings, and then went opposite the door of the hustings, and there they rang their marrow-bones and cleavers: some time after this (the butchers were between one or two and twenty I believe) it was past two o'clock, when a party got out of a little house upon a rising ground, opposite to the corner of the hustings where I stood. Quirk I saw in the first attack. He was not in the party that came to the corner where I was on the hustings. I saw him among the first party. I saw him afterwards among the people that attacked that part of the hustings where I was. I don't know but that I might rap out an oath

or two, D——n you, what do you do here? And they gave me some of their favours likewise. I received several blows. I inquired for Sir William Beauchamp, he was my man; there was a gentleman stood near where Sir William was; I went to Sir William. I will not pretend to ascertain the particular words that I might have expressed at that time to him; but it was to this purpose: Whether he meant to be returned for the county of Middlesex by a mob in that manner? Sir William declared upon his honour, they were not his mob. They had Proctor and Liberty in their hats, I believe, at the same time. I went up to Mr. Sheriff Shakespeare, and remonstrated with him. What words might have dropped, I cannot pretend to recollect: I believe Mr. Shakespeare was of opinion with me, that it was a very odd affair. I returned to Sir William Beauchamp, on seeing a regular mob drawn up on the lower side of the hustings. I have seen men very often drawn up, but I think they were as regularly drawn up as ever I saw. They were headed by one man; they had clubs ready. Their mark was the side of the hustings. When I spoke to Sir William Beauchamp, it was before they came up to the hustings. There was a house below the hustings, and they turned up by that house; he had denied before that they were his mob, I desired to know again whether they were his mob or not. He declared to me upon his honour, that they were not. Upon that, while I was speaking to him, they came on and attacked the hustings in that part, and knocked down indiscriminately

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minately friend or foe. There was a number of mobs, one attacked one place, and another at another. The prisoner, M'Quirk, was in this mob that attacked the lower side of the hustings, where I was. I say nothing against Balfe. I am sorry to say it, and I am ashamed to say it, I asked him who gave him his orders; his answer was, Sir William Beauchamp. And he said, *Your honour for ever, and God bless your honour*; and a great deal of that. He said his honour Sir William gave him the orders: upon which I looked at Sir William, and then repeated the question to the man. The man made the same answer. As to the particular words that past between me and Sir William, they were, *It is very true, the man impeaches me; upon my honour, I am innocent. What can I say more?* Then, in the middle of the hustings, there were some words that past upon this account. It might be a minute, or a minute and a half, before I observed the same mob, as they came round the upper side. They had cleared the lower side in a very short time. They shifted to the upper side, and we were all in confusion, you may naturally suppose: I saw them not only knocking down, but beating the people unmercifully upon the ground. I spoke to Sir William Beauchamp again, and said, For God's sake, if they are not your mob, try if you can have any influence to prevent murder. Sir William's reply was, What can I do? they are not mine, (repeating upon his honour, as he had before declared.) Upon seeing such barbarity, I made use of such an expression to Sir William, that I believe was not so proper to do, and

jumped over the hustings, and seized the prisoner Quirk, and I believe I made use of this expression, God d—mn you, (or something like it) do you mean to murder these fellows? The prisoner, I will say that for him, left off; but the other fellows that were with him had a mind to serve me much in the same manner. What I might have suffered, whether I might lose my life or not, I owe to the prisoner Quirk, who held his club over my head, and cried Be quiet, be quiet; what are you about? this is a friend of Sir William's. It was very fortunate for me that he made that mistake; and I believe your lordship's may be assured I did not attempt to deceive him. I said to the prisoner, Who gave you orders? He said, he knew very well; that was his first answer. I repeated the question, and solicited him to tell me; his answer then was, It was Lord Halifax's man. I asked him what man? I think he said Tetan, or Tattam, I will not be certain to the name. He told me afterwards it was Mr. Tetam. It was not a proper place to enquire farther. I desired him to walk along with me and another of the men who appeared to be the ring-leaders. When we came down to the Castle-yard, I enquired particularly how they came to make the attack. I drew them from that place. There were two or three that followed him into the Castle-yard. I stopped a little more to examine him further. When I was questioning him particularly, there was one man came up and said to him, Prithee be quiet, do you know who you are talking to? The prisoner's answer was, Aye, I know him very

very well; I saw him in a very friendly manner with Sir William Beauchamp Proctor just now. I desired him to go with me further down. As I came through the yard, I desired Mr. Popham (I winked at him) to come along with me. When we came under the arch-way into the street, there was a regular siege. I desired Quirk to meet me at the Shakespeare that evening, at ten o'clock. Accordingly, at ten o'clock I went to the Shakespeare, but the prisoner was not then come. I went down to the house of Commons, and stayed some time: afterwards I came back again, and met the prisoner and his friend there. That was Balse. I examined him very particularly in regard to the orders he had received upon the attack at the riot; his answer to me was this: That he had received orders from Lord Halifax's man, Mr. Tetam. I asked him how Mr. Tetam came to give him these orders for the attack? His answer was, I think, that a waterman, or something of that sort, came into the house where they were when the mob were at Brentford, and told them there was an end of your Proctor; there is four to one, or five to one of Glyn's men gone to pot for him. Upon which he said, Mr. Tetam, and I think, Mr. Broughton (I will not swear particularly to Mr. Broughton) Mr. Tetam he distinguished to me by Lord Halifax's man, gave them the wink to go and *play about them*. That was his expression: which, he said, he did very effectually. He remonstrated to me on what he was to have for the payment for this. (He supposed all the time that I was a friend of Sir

William's.) He told me, that he knew Sir William to be a man of honour, and would act very honourably by him, as he had done his business very effectually. I asked him how much he required? He said he had made no particular agreement with the said Mr. Tetam for himself and twenty-five men under him, but left it to Sir William's honour. But that at Northampton, he had two guineas a week, and victuals and drink for every one he hired there; and he hoped Sir William would do the same. He said Tetam agreed with him and twenty-five more. He said, if either of them was disappointed, he would pay them out of his own pocket by to-morrow morning, and leave it to Sir William's honour. He said, that if the men were afraid of their money, he would pay them out of his own pocket. I asked him who hired him for Northampton. He told me the same Tetam. I asked him, how they came to be so barbarous, to beat the people on the ground? He made answer, and said, That he had one very bloody-minded fellow in his party that always would do so, and he never could break him of it at Northampton. I asked him particularly who this fellow was? I do not charge my memory he told me the person. I asked him who the man was that impeached Sir William at the hustings? His answer was, one Riely, a d—d scoundrel (I think he said) and remonstrated to me, that that fellow had fought his way, and spoke to Sir William Beauchamp afterwards that evening. He went down stairs afterwards, and the gentlemen came and took him up.

The

The next material evidence sworn was Mr. William Beale, an acquaintance of the deceased, who deposed, that Mr. Clarke seemed to be afraid: I said, Do not be afraid, for I hope there will be no hurt. I turned myself round, and saw them draw their bludgeons from under their great coats. I had a stick in my hand; I put it over my head, and put my left hand upon my head: they beat my stick down, and struck me over the left hand, which swelled my hand. I received another blow on the side of my head; then I ran into the yard belonging to the Three Pigeons. I had not been there above a minute or two, before Mr. George Clarke came to me all in a gore of blood. It issued from the right side, or rather backward, of his head, near the top, and ran down his cloaths. From thence we went to the reverend Mrs. Horne's. I saw him on the Monday evening. He was then very bad in bed. I thought he was not fit to be talked to. When I was coming away, he put his hand out of bed, and said, Mr. Beale, will you shake hands with me? I said I would. I did, and parted, and never saw him after. He was in as good health, when at Brentford, as I am at this time, and as sober as I am this minute.

The next evidence was Mr. Clay, the high-constable; but it did not affect the prisoners, he giving only a general account of the riot, and averring, he did not charge the prisoners with any thing.

These were the principal witnesses examined in support of the charge. In the course of this trial a question arose—Whether some discourse between Mr. Allen, and

Sir W—B—P— (which seemed to bring a charge of a very dark nature home to the latter) was permissible to be given in evidence on that occasion, as it might affect him in case an indictment should be preferred against him? But the judges unanimously concurred in opinion, that the witness may, with propriety, recite the conversation, because it may lead to prove the guilt of the prisoners. Clarke, a witness produced for the prisoners in the above affair, swore very freely at first; but in his cross-examination, it appeared that he was hired by Broughton, a yeoman of the guards, previous to the day of election, along with ten others, who mostly appeared to be chairmen, and servants out of place. Their hire, he deposed was a guinea each, and the purposes of their being sent was to keep the peace, and assist Sir W—B—P—'s friends. On being interrogated whether he associated with any of the constables or civil officers; or whether his directions were to that end? he answered in the negative. What is worth observation in this evidence, that though he was produced for Balse's defence, he proved to be the only one that could affect his life. Many evidences appearing in Balse's favour, it only appearing that he was rather drawn in than a principal, his counsel considered it as unnecessary to examine a number of creditable house-keepers, who were ready to be produced to his character. The judge was very humane in his charge relative to him; and it seemed to be a disappointment to some in the court, when the verdict was pronounced, *Both guilty.*

After the trial it was moved by the prisoner's counsel, that there was a flaw in the indictment, by the grand jury's erasure of the words *aiding and assisting*. This was accordingly debated on the Monday following; when the arguments on both sides continued near four hours, when Mr. Justice Aston gave his opinion to the following purport; "That in a case where the lives of two persons were concerned, he would not at once pretend to determine without the clearest conviction. He said he had previously weighed all the circumstances very minutely, relative to this affair; and had the pleasure of having his opinion corroborated by lord chief justice Parker, justice Gould, and Mr. Recorder: he was therefore clear, he said, in the indictment being valid." He further corroborated his opinion by several precedents of a similar nature; and concluded with an observation of that great lawyer Hale, "That the picking out flaws in indictments, whereby justice was evaded, was a scandal to law, a degradation to justice, and a dishonour to God."

Mr. Recorder then proceeded to pass sentence; previous to which, he hoped that the fate of these two unhappy persons would be a warning to all rioters; as nothing, he said, could be more destructive to the laws of society, particularly to elections, the essence of English freedom; and, that the procurers, (if any there were, however dignified) as well as the procured, were not exempt, by our laws, from this catastrophe.

See his majesty's royal warrant for the pardon of M^r. Quirk, with the reasons which occasioned it, among our State-papers.

HISTORY of the DOUGLAS CAUSE.

LADY Jane Douglas, sister to the duke of Douglas, having for a considerable period, with the approbation of her relations, received the then duke of Berkleugh's addresses, every thing was settled for their union—when her ladyship happening to make some important discoveries respecting his character, abruptly declared her utter disinclination to fulfil the engagement—a declaration that was productive of a duel between the two dukes, and the final dissolution of their intended alliance.

Having lived single many years, her ladyship was by means of Mrs. Hewit, her woman, brought acquainted with Mr. Stewart, an officer of good family, but, from being a younger brother, of very limited expectations; the consequence of which was a mutual though secret attachment to each other, as they were sensible of the impossibility of reconciling the duke to a connection utterly incompatible with the dignity of his descent, and haughtiness of his soul—for he would frequently boast a nearer claim to the crown of Scotland, than even its last possessors.

Lady Jane, notwithstanding she was the only younger issue of her father, was left destitute of a provision, or what was equally hard and extraordinary; a dependant on the bounty of a brother; he, indeed, appointed her the annual stipend of eight hundred pounds during

pleasure,

pleasure, and permitted her to reside in his house; but such was the singularity of his disposition, as to render both the one and the other exceedingly precarious and unsatisfactory.

Thus situated, and thus circumstanced, she was, at length, overcome by the importunity of Mr. Stewart, and the flattering insinuations of her favourite Hewit; and consented to amuse her brother, as her health was in but an indifferent state, with the consequent necessity of her taking a journey to Aix-la-Chapelle—by which pretext she was enabled to meet the man of her choice at Duthan, where she was married, and from whence she, together with him and her faithful attendant, immediately embarked for Germany.

Mr. Stewart's conduct as a husband was most unexceptionable, but being naturally of a diffusive turn, his finances became very uneasy, more particularly as his lady was soon in a condition that would not admit of economy.

Lady Jane, anxious for a reconciliation with her brother, and alarmed at her own prospects, wrote him the whole account of her proceedings and circumstances, intreating he would forgive and forget the little deception she had practised, and bestow some favourable consideration on her husband; whom she assured him was in no degree unworthy of such, however great, indulgence.

The same packet, that conveyed this letter to the duke, was fraught likewise with epistles of affectionate remembrance, and acknowledgment of her circumstances, to all her particular friends, from the chief of whom she received congratu-

latory returns, though her brother did not condescend to honour her with the smallest notice.

Hurt by this neglect, and conceiving a change of situation would be advantageous, her ladyship obtained a passport (she was then subsisting making it essential) from Marshal Saxe and removed into France, where, with a privacy that poverty alone could have imposed, she was safely delivered of two sons, one of which did not long survive its birth.

She now a second time addressed her brother in terms of respect and solicitation, but so far was he from proving propitious, that he withdrew the annuity which he was conscious was this unhappy lady's whole support, and became deaf to every application or remonstrance in her favour.

Reduced to the lowest ebb, she, together with her husband, children, and Mrs. Hewit, returned to England, where her distress arose to such a height, that she at last submitted to implore the interest of some persons of the first distinction, to obtain her the royal protection—not was the want of every means of subsistence the only evil she had to contend with—an infamous charge was brought against her by some designing persons, of having, in conjunction with her husband and servant, purchased the two infants in a remote part of France for the purpose of injuring the true heirs to the Douglas title and estate.

The duchess of Douglas, a lady of birth and accomplishments, however, inferior to the duke in the article of fortune, satisfied of the justice and propriety of Lady Jane's conduct, warmly espoused her

her cause to the mortal offence of his grace her husband, who influenced by a family whose views were diametrically opposite to the Douglas interest; carried his resentment against his sister, and all her abettors so far, that the duchess was obliged to leave him for her own security.

This separation was made the utmost advantage of by Lady Jane's enemies; but such was the benevolence of the duchess, that she waved all personal considerations, and yielded to the very first overture for a reconciliation the duke was pleased to favour her with, in order the more effectually to serve his unfortunate relations.

But notwithstanding the malicious industry of Lady Jane's opponents, the preposterous report gained so little credit, that his late majesty bestowed a pension of three hundred pounds per annum upon her, which she enjoyed till the year 1760, when she was taken off, to the universal regret of all her acquaintance.

The duchess of Douglass, now secretly supported her nephew and his father, until on the death of all his brothers, the title of baronet, and an estate of fifteen hundred pounds a year, became the property of this Mr. John Stewart—who instantly, notwithstanding he was entered into a second marriage, settled the better half on his son, the honourable Archibald Douglas, an indisputable confirmation of his not being a fraudulent acquisition!

The latter end of the ensuing twelvemonth the duke was seized with a disorder, which soon hurried him to his grave, an event that did not fail to render the only surviving son of Lady Jane an ob-

ject of general contemplation—who took possession of the Douglas estate; but the affair of his birth began to be alarmingly canvassed, and the steps actually commenced in order to invalidate his claim.

His generous aunt, the duchess dowager, with the utmost spirit stood forth in his defence, and the matter having been brought with little satisfaction before the parliament of France, was reheard in the judicial courts of Scotland.

During the dependance of this important determination, both Sir John Stewart and Mrs. Hewit very unluckily died, the one by a sudden, the other by a lingering illness, both having first declared with their departing breath, under the most solemn sanction, the truth of all they had invariably continued to maintain, at least in essentials, respecting Lady Jane's issue.

During this contentious period, Mr. D. was by the interest of the plaintiffs advanced to the dignity of p—, a dignity that was soon rendered of unspeakable consequence to the several claimants by an equal division of the twelve judges.—The casting voice was his—conscience and inclination were for once in unison—for the Douglasses were cast, and the friends of Mr. D. pronounced victorious.

Though many thousands were already expended, the duchess had, nevertheless, the courage to lodge an appeal in the English House of Lords.

The hopes and fears of the parties and their adherents ran high, as the period of determination approached.

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The judge-advocate of Scotland came to London for the sole purpose of pleading, agreeable to his faith and principles, repeatedly disclaiming, all pecuniary gratification, unless his labours should be crowned with success! His acquaintance with Lady Jane, his scrutiny into the injurious allegations of her adversaries, having long fixed him her son's most zealous friend.—

To this sketch of the history of this important cause, we shall add, two celebrated speeches, in which the whole transaction is very learnedly argued, with uncommon forcibility and perspicuity.

*The Substance of the Speech of the
Right Hon. the L—— C—.*

THE cause before us, is, perhaps, the most solemn and important ever heard at this bar. For my own share, I am unconnected with the parties; and having, with all possible attention, considered the matter both in public and private, I shall give my opinion with that strictness of impartiality to which your lordships have so just and equitable a claim. The question before us is this,—“Is the appellant the son of the late Lady Jane Douglas or not?” I am of the mind that he is; and own that a more ample and positive proof of a child's being the son of a mother never appeared in a court of justice, or before any assize whatever.

The marriage of Lady Jane to colonel Stewart, August 10, 1746, is admitted on all hands. Her pregnancy in January 1748, and the progress of it, were observed by many people: At Aix-la-Chapelle it was notorious, her stays

were widened; the nuns of the convent of St. Anne, discerned it, notwithstanding Lady Jane's modesty; the maid-servants are positive as to the fact: the earl of Crawford wrote an account of it to the duke of Douglas, not as an hear-say, but as a fact, of which he himself was fully satisfied by ocular inspection; and if there be a pregnancy, there must be a delivery, which accordingly happened by the positive evidence of Mrs. Hewit, who has deposed, that—“she received them into her lap as they came from Lady Jane's body.”—She was delivered of twins on the 10th of July 1748, at Paris, in the house of madam la Brun in the Fauxbourg de St. Germain. Lady Jane's ability to bear children is established by many witnesses; and a miscarriage after the birth of the twins, still more and more proves the delivery.

But, my lords, there is another proof no less convincing, that the appellant is really the son of Lady Jane, and this arises from the uniform tenderness shewn towards him. It is in proof, that on every occasion she shewed all the fondness of a mother: when he casually hit his head against a table, she screamed out and fainted away; when her husband, the colonel, was in prison, she never wrote to him without making mention of her sons; she recommends them to clergymen for the benefit of their prayers; is disconsolate for the death of the youngest; takes the sacrament; owns her surviving son; does every thing in her power to convince the world of his being hers; blesses and acknowledges him in her dying moments, and leaves him such things as she had.

Sir John likewise shews the same tenderness in effect: he leaves him 50,000 marks by a bond in September 1763, ten years after the death of Lady Jane; and on his death-bed solemnly declares, before God, that the appellant is the son of Lady Jane; — "I make this declaration, said he, as stepping into eternity." A man that is a thief may disguise himself in public, but he has no occasion for any mask when in private.

These positive declarations convinced the duke of Douglas; and he left his dukedom, and other estates, to his nephew the appellant, who was regularly served heir thereto in September 1761; when he was possessed of all the birth-right of a son, so far as the oaths of witnesses, the acknowledgment of parents, and an established habit and repute could go. The cruel aspersions thrown out against Lady Jane and the colonel, had been refuted by the late duke of Argyle and the countess of Stair. No mortal doubted the appellant's being the son of Lady Jane, except Andrew Stewart; his father Archibald Stewart; Major Cockran, who is married to Stewart's sister; with White of Stockbrigg's, a principal actor in these scenes. These doubted the matter; and Andrew Stewart, as by concert, went over to France, not to procure evidence of a real fact, but to suborn witnesses to establish an article that never existed, except in their own imagination; the design was bad; and the means to accomplish it, were no less criminal! It is needless to follow the searcher through all the scenes of his enquiry, the result of which was to return to Scotland, enter an action against

the appellant, and bring his own father to condemn him, at a time when the old gentleman was in a condition every way deplorable. And taking advantage of his inaccuracies, he makes a second tour to Paris, where he published a *Monitoire*, entirely to seduce witnesses, and influence them to commit the blackest perjury. In this paper he describes the person of Sir John Stewart, Lady Jane Douglas, and of Mrs. Hewit; asserts, that they had purchased two children, whom they wanted to impose upon the world, in order to defraud a real heir of an immense estate and fortune; and inviting all who could give light into the matter, to come to his lodgings, which he particularly described.

Mr. Stewart certainly appeared like the guardian of the duke of Hamilton; a pompous title, which drew several to their own destruction, and in hopes of a reward. Among the number of those was madam Mignon, a glass manufacturer's spouse, who, after conversing with Andrew Stewart and his clerk, and receiving presents from them, comes in before the *Tournelle Criminelle*, and deposes, that she had sold her own child to foreigners, whom she did not so much as know. "Can a woman forsake her sucking child?" is a rhetorical remonstrance handed to us from highest authority. — The thing is incredible, and yet the woman has sworn it! — A circumstance sufficient to render her testimony of no force, when opposed to the dying declarations of Lady Jane Douglas and colonel Stewart; and to the positive oath of Mrs. Hewit, whose character is established upon a very good foundation; but take the declaration of

madam

madam in all its extent; yet she has said nothing to affect the appellant; the time when, the people to whom, with every other circumstance, prove her not to have been the mother of the young gentleman; his complexion, the colour of his eyes and hair, prove that he was not her's. The same thing might be said of the son of Sarry, the rope-dancer, whom the counsel for the respondent would infer to be the child of Sholto, the younger of the twins: and as a strong proof of the same, urged, that the two were but the same identical person under different names: and your lordships were entreated to keep in your view the rupture under which each of them laboured, in order to prove the identity! But now comes all out! Sarry's child could speak in November 1749, but Sholto could not utter a word for some months after he came to Mr. Murray's house in December 1749. And now evidence is offered to be produced at your lordship's bar, that the child Sholto had no rupture in 1749; nay, that he was as found as any person within these walls; certainly Mr. Murray, the most material witness in this affair, is more to be credited than madam.

Your lordships have heard much ingenuity displayed, in order to prove that Lady Jane's pregnancy was imaginary. The symptoms are allowed; but the reality is now denied, though once Andrew Stewart himself was forced to acknowledge that Lady Jane was actually with child. If Lady Jane, or any other woman, had such symptoms, it is impossible she could have been eased of them so soon

in any other manner than by a delivery; had she been ill of a dropsy, her bulk would not have been totally diminished in so short a time, as from the second of July to the first week of August, when all who saw her at Rheims, concluded, that she had but lately lain in. Great stress has been laid upon the letters said to have been forged in the name of *Pierre le Marre*, the man-midwife, the person who delivered Lady Jane. I admit them to be forged, and yet this forgery is with me a proof of Lady Jane's innocence; Sir John's hardships are admitted; and if he, after so long a confinement, should cause the letters that had passed between La Marre and him to be transcribed, in order to amuse himself, or to satisfy Lady Jane that they were not lost, it was no way criminal; Lady Jane received them, but observing they were not originals, she laid them by: so conscious was she of her own innocence, that she did not use them, nor ever would they have made their appearance, had it not been for the conduct of Andrew Stewart, who, upon getting an order to search Lady Jane's repositories, found out these letters, produced them in court to Sir John, when under all the miserable circumstances of a man groaning under a load of years, infirmities, and the acutest pains.

The evidence of Godfroi, the landlord of the hotel de Chalons, in the rue St. Martin, is contradictory and inconsistent, his books being every way defective and erroneous; nor does Andrew Stewart appear upon a favourable light in this particular. When first he came

to Godfroi's house, both the man and his wife were ignorant of the matter; neither the one nor the other recollected Lady Jane Douglas, or her husband, till Andrew Stewart, desiring a sight of the *Livre d'Inspecteur*, he found two articles, one of them Mr. Flurat Escossois et sa famille fontentie, 8 Juliet, 1748; and this he positively affirms, with oaths and imprecations, to be the hand-writing of Sir John Stewart, with which he pretended to be thoroughly acquainted; but he was obliged to retract, when other postages were found to be of the same hand-writing: this postage was found to be posterior to one written on the 12th, and the landlady of the house declared that she herself had marked it down. He had fifteen rooms and ten closets, which they pretended always to be full, and yet in their books it does not appear that there were above three persons in them during colonel Stewart's pretended abode; and what is pretty strange, they had many women lodgers during that year, and yet they depose, they remember none but this lady, whom Andrew Stewart would have to be Lady Jane Douglas. They even differ with respect to the names of their servants; the counsel at the bar have acknowledged the inaccuracy of the books, owing to the avocations of the man elsewhere, and to the inadvertency of his spouse, continually hurried by a multiplicity of business. Besides a postage in a book, such as the *Livre d'Inspecteur*, which, like a waste-book, contains things just as they occur; or the *Livre de Depense*, to which the articles of the former are transferred, bear no man-

ner of convincing proof, that the persons mentioned in these staid at such and such places, it being a customary thing to mark down the name of the person the moment he takes the lodging; and it is notorious that many persons have paid a week's, nay, a month's lodging, without sleeping a night in it; and this is no more than equity, since the same was reserved for their use.

But here, my Lords, the pursuers in this affair have destroyed their own cause: they have brought a sort of proof that Lady Jane Douglas was at Michell's house, called the Petit hotel d'Anjou, in the rue Serpente, Fauxbourg St. Germain; and this, at the very time when they would prove her to have been at the house of Godfroi, of whom so much has been said and heard. Michelle and Godfroi disagree in everything, except in the irregularity of their books; and indeed it is hard to say which of the two excels most in that particular; but not to insist on the irregularities, it is proved to be the practice in Paris, and of Michelle in particular, to write the people's names in these police-books as entered on the day the room was hired, though the person does not enter for some days after.

To insist on these things, my lords, is tedious; and yet the importance of the case requires it. One Madam Blainville swears, that on one of the days betwixt the 8th and 13th of July, she accompanied Lady Jane in a coach to take a view of Versailles, and at another time to see the palace de Vendome; but this witness is, in every respect, contradicted by a multiplicity

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multiplicity of evidence; and in every view her testimony appears to be absurd and preposterous. First, she is contradicted by Mrs. Hewit, whose deposition bears great weight with me, as also by other witnesses; for first, she, Blainville, says, that Sir John and his family were eight days in Michell's before the child was brought to the house; whereas Michell's family all swear, that he was brought the next day. Secondly she says; that the child was given to the nurse, La Favre, the very night of her arrival; that she saw her carry him home with her, and that Lady Jane visited him in the nurse's house: whereas, on the contrary it is proved, that Favre remained four days at the hotel, during which period Lady Jane went no where abroad. Thirdly, she deposes, that no person visited Sir John and Lady Jane during their stay at Michell's; whereas, by the oath of madam Favre, a gentleman visited him there. But be that as it may, Lady Jane was delivered on the 10th of July; and Blainville does not say she went to Versailles till the 27th; and it is no new thing for a lady, however delicate, so long after delivery, to go so far in a country where the weather and roads are so remarkably fine, and the carriages every way easy and convenient.

All these objections to the reality of the appellant being the son of Lady Jane, are imaginary, and hitherto have been refuted, to the honour of the innocent, and the more firmly establishing him in the possession of his birth-right. They only tend to render her virtues more brilliant and illustrious: for as the allegations never existed in fact, but in the imagination of

Andrew Stewart; so when put to the trial, they must necessarily fall to the ground. Thus he has asserted, that colonel Stewart received 350 l. from the earl of Morton's banker, some days before Lady Jane's lying in; and from thence would infer, that her delivery in madam Brun's, an obscure house, was only to carry on the imposture: but now it appears that this money was not received till sixteen days after. How unfortunate for the duke of Hamilton to be under the direction of such a man! one, who has involved him in such an immensity of expences, and this by examining a multitude of witnesses upon articles really foreign to the cause, which indeed is not the duke of Hamilton's; it is the cause of Andrew Stewart, who has acted so strange a part, as well deserved the observation made at the bar, with great propriety, "That if ever I was to be concerned in any business with him. I should look upon him with a jealous eye." I shall not follow the noble Lord who spoke last, through the various descriptions he has given us of midwifery. His observations may be just; but they cannot affect the character of Lady Jane Douglas, or the cause of the appellant her son. The question before us is short: Is the appellant the son of Lady Jane Douglas, or not? If there be any lords within these walls who do not believe in a future state, these may go to death with the declaration that they believe he is not. For my part, I am for sustaining the positive proof, which I find weakened by nothing brought against it; and in this mind I lay my hand upon my breast, and declare, that in my soul and conscience I believe the appellant to be her son.

*The Substance of the Speech of the
right honourable L^d M^d.*

I Must own that this cause before us is the greatest and most important that occurs to me: it is no less than an attack upon the virtue and honour of a lady of the first quality, in order to dispossess a young man of an eminent fortune, reduce him to beggary, strip him of his birth-right, declare him an alien, and a foundling. I have slept and waked upon the subject, considered it upon my pillow, to the losing of my natural rest; and with all the judgment I was capable, have considered the various articles that make up this long and voluminous cause, upon which I am now to give my opinion before your lordships.

I apprehend, that in the matter before us three things are to be considered: The situation of lady Jane before her delivery, at her delivery, and after it was over: to all which the chancellor has spoken with great propriety. It is proved beyond a possibility of doubt, that she became pregnant in October 1747, at the age of forty-nine years, a thing far from being uncommon, as is attested by physicians of the first rank, and confirmed by daily experience: and that in the month of July she was delivered of twins, one of whom died, the other is still alive. He has been presented to the world by Sir John Stewart and lady Jane Douglas, as their son; nor can he be wrested from the hands of his parents, unless some other had in their life-time claimed him as their child in a legal and justifiable way.

This action, my lords, did not lie against the appellant as an impostor; for an impostor, in the sense of the law, is a person who wilfully and knowingly pretends to be a different one from what he really is, in order to defraud another, and to impose under a fictitious name upon the public. If any be an impostor it must have been lady Jane, whom they ought to have prosecuted in her life-time, and not at the distance of nine years after her death: the method of discovering an impostor is to bring his accomplice to the court before which the impostor was arraigned; and if, after a fair trial, the accused person be found guilty, let him take the consequences thereof: but this the respondents have neglected. The appellant has been for five years four months and twelve days, the acknowledged son of Lady Jane Douglas; and for thirteen years and two months the son of Sir John Stewart, before any attempt was made to rob him of his parents, his birth-right, and his all.

As the lord chancellor has anticipated much of what I intended to speak upon this subject, so I shall only touch on the situation and character of the deceased, whom I remember, in the year 1750, to have been in the most deplorable circumstances. She came to me (being solicitor-general) in a very destitute condition, and yet her modesty would not suffer her to complain. The noblewoman was every way visible, even under all the pressure of want and poverty. Her visage and appearance were more powerful advocates than her voice; and yet I was afraid to offer her relief, for fear of being

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constructed to proffer her an indignity. In this manner she came twice to my house, before I knew her real necessities; to relieve which now was my aim. I spoke to Mr. Pelham in her favour; told him of her situation with regard to her brother the duke of Douglas and of her present straits and difficulties. Mr. Pelham, without delay, laid the matter before the king; the duke of Newcastle, then being at Hanover, was wrote to; he seconded the solicitation of his brother. His majesty immediately granted her 300 l. per annum out of his privy-purse; and Mr. Pelham was so generous as to order 150 l. of the money to be instantly paid. I can assure your lordships, that I never did trouble his majesty for any other. Lady Jane Douglas was the first and the last who ever had a pension by my means. At that time I looked upon her to be a lady of the strictest honour and integrity, and to have the deepest sense of the grandeur of the family from whence she was sprung; a family conspicuously great in Scotland for a thousand years past; a family whose numerous branches have spread over Europe; they have frequently intermarried with the blood-royal; and she herself was descended from Henry VII. I took care that his late majesty should be made acquainted with her family and name, to the intent that, though she was married to colonel Stewart, a dissipated and licentious man, and who had been in the rebellion, 1715, yet he would pass it over, as she was of a race who had always been eminently loyal, her brother having charged as a volunteer at the head of the cavalry

in the year 1715, when his cousin the earl of Forfar died like an hero in defence of the government; and that his grace had, in the year 1745, treated the rebels and their leader with contempt and ridicule; and indeed his majesty, from his wonted magnanimity, spoke nothing of her husband; but treated her with all the respect due to a noblewoman of the first rank and quality; one who carried all the appearance of a person habituated to devotion; and for a number of years trained up in the school of adversity and disappointment.

Is it impossible, my lords, to imagine that a woman of such a family, of such high honour, and who had a real sense of her own dignity, could be so base as to impose false children upon the world? Would she have owned them on every occasion? Was ever mother more affected for the death of a child, than she was for that of Sholto, the younger of her sons? "Will you, said she, indulge me to speak of my son?" And cried out with great vehemency,—"O Sholto! Sholto! my son Sholto!"—And after speaking of his death, she said,—"She thanked God that her son Archie was alive. What, said she, would the enemies of me and my children say, if they saw me lying in the dust of death upon account of the death of my son Sholto? Would they have any stronger proof of their being my children than my dying for them?" She still insisted that the shock which she received by the death of Sholto, and other griefs she had met with, were so severe upon her, that she was perfectly persuaded she

she would never recover, but considered herself as a dying woman, and one who was soon to appear in the presence of Almighty God, and to whom she must answer. She declared that the children Archie and Sholto were born of her body; and that there was one blessing of which her enemies could not deprive her, which was her innocence, and that she could pray to Almighty God for the life of her other son; that she was not afraid for him, for that God Almighty would take care of him! And what is remarkable, the witness Mary Macrabie observed, that the grief for the loss of the child grew upon her. Would she, my lords, have blessed her surviving child on her death-bed? Would she have died with a lie in her mouth, and perjury in her right-hand!—Charity, that thinketh no evil, will not suffer me for a moment to harbour an opinion so cruel and preposterous: or can we suppose, that two people, who had not wherewith to support themselves, would be solicitous, and shew all the tenderness of parents towards the children of creatures, who, forgetting the first principles of instinct and humanity, had sold their children to people whom they did not so much as know by their names. The act of Joseph's brethren in selling him is represented as wicked and unnatural, but indeed the crime of madam Mignon and of madam Santry, is still more black and atrocious!—To carry this a little further, suppose Lady Jane Douglas had acted this out of a principle of revenge towards the family of Hamilton, yet Sir John Stewart, had no occasion to do so; much less continue the vindictive farce after

her death, especially when married to another spouse. And here we may see Sir John as much a parent to the appellant as Lady Jane; he was every way fond of him; it is in evidence; I know it to be true: my sister and I have been frequently at Mr. Murray's with them, and were always delighted with the care we observed. No mortal harboured any thoughts of their being false children at that time. I mean in 1750 and 1751. Every person looked upon them as the children of Lady Jane Douglas and of colonel Stewart. The countess of Eglington, lord Lindores, and many others, have, upon oath, declared the same thing.

No sooner does the colonel hear of the atterptions raised at Douglas-castle, and of Mr. Archibald Stewart's swearing that count Douglas, a French nobleman, had informed the duke of Douglas that they had been bought out of an hospital, than he returned an answer to Mr. Loch, who gave the intelligence in a letter to Mrs. Hewit, and wrote to him in all the terms of a man of spirit, cordially interested in the welfare and happiness of his son; but he and Lady Jane begged the favour of chevalier Douglas, a French gentleman and officer, then at London, to acquaint his cousin the count with what was said of him. This the chevalier undertook, and fulfilled with the fidelity of a man of honour; and the count, in consequence of the application, wrote a letter not only to Lady Jane, but to her brother the duke, in all the language of politeness and humanity, disowning what was said of him.

But, my lords, the duke of Douglas himself was fully satisfied

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tified of the appellant's being the real son of his sister Lady Jane; for on beginning to be known after his marriage, and to relish the pleasures of social life, he became very inquisitive "about the size, shape, and complexion of the appellant, and if he appeared to be a smart boy." He employed Sir William Douglas, and others in whom he could confide, to enquire of Mrs. Hewit, Lady Jane's companion, and of Euphemia Caw and Isabella Walker, the two maid servants who had lived with them when abroad, and observed their conduct in the most unguarded moments, concerning the birth of the children; he even searched into the characters of these, and it appears from the depositions of clergymen and gentlemen of the first rank in that country, that they were women worthy to be believed. He even went in person to visit Mrs. Hewit, conversed with her in the presence of his gentleman, Mr. Greensheills, concerning his sister's delivery; and the accounts given by these, like the radii of a circle, all pointing toward one and the same centre, confirming the reality of Lady Jane being the mother of the young gentleman, he was satisfied, acknowledged him for his nephew, and left him his heir.

If the Duke of Douglas, after so serious an enquiry, was convinced, why should not we? It is true, his grace has sometimes expressed himself warmly against the surname of Hamilton, even in Lady Jane's lifetime, but never so warmly as to prefer a suppositious child to the duke of that name; for he only declares, "that if he thought the children were Lady Jane's, he

would never settle his estate on the family of Hamilton;" nor did he, till after detecting the frauds and conspiracies that had been so long and so industriously carried on against his sister and himself, make any alteration in his first settlement.

After the duke's death, the appellant was served heir to his uncle, according to the form prescribed by the law of Scotland, upon an uncontroverted evidence of his being the son of Lady Jane Douglas, takes possession of the estate, and is virtually acknowledged heir by the earl of Selkirk, and by the Duke of Hamilton's guardians themselves; for these enter actions before the court of Session, declaring their right to certain parts of the estates, upon some antient claims which the judges there declared to be groundless; but in the whole action there was not the least intimation that Mr. Douglas was not the son of Lady Jane.

'Tis needless to trouble your lordships with the conduct of the respondent's guardians at Paris, and elsewhere upon the continent. Nothing has been discovered that could throw the least blemish upon the honour of Lady Jane Douglas, or colonel Stewart: they have, indeed, proved her straits there, and his imprisonment here; but both these circumstances carry a further confirmation that the appellant is their son; for in every letter that passed between them, the children are named with a tenderness scarce to be believed: whereas, had they been counterfeit, as pretended, they would have been apt to upbraid one another for an act so manifestly tending to involve them in their sufferings.

Suppose,

Suppose, my lords, that Mignon, the glass manufacturer's wife, the pretended mother of Mr. Douglas, had deposed the same things in Lady Jane's presence, as she has so long after her death: From her evidence, it appears that she had never seen Lady Jane; by her words, both in private and public, she seems to deserve no manner of credit; the oath of Mr. Murray, a principal witness, has destroyed every thing she has asserted. The same thing might be said of Sanry, the rope dancer's spouse, whose child's rupture we were earnestly desired to keep in view, to prove him to have been the identical Sholto, the younger of the twins; and now evidence is offered that the child Sholto had no rupture, but was as sound as any within these walls. Your lordships have been told, and I believe with great truth, that a gentleman, shocked at the assertion, had wrote to the council, that the influence arising from so false a suggestion might be prevented. I always rejoice to hear truth, which is the ornament of criticism, and the polished gem that decorates a bar.

The scrutiny in France, followed by an action in Scotland, produced two things never intended by them; it brought forth a striking acknowledgment of the appellant, by his father, Sir John Stewart, as is manifest from the bond of provision read at your lordships bar. Sir John openly acknowledged him, before the court of Session, in the midst of a crowded multitude, and when labouring under a load of anguish and pain; nay, when by himself, he solemnly declared before God, in the pre-

sence of a justice of peace, and two clergymen, that the young gentleman was his son. It likewise established the character of Lady Jane; for on examining the proofs obtained through the vigilance of the Duchess of Douglas, Lady Jane's reputation is unsullied and great; all who had the honour of being known to her, declared that her behaviour attracted universal esteem, and madam Marie-Sophi Gallisen, a maiden lady, with whom she lodged several months, deposes, that "Lady Jane was very amiable, and gentle as an angel." It is further proved, that the elder child, the appellant, was the exact picture of his father, and the child Sholto as like Lady Jane, as ever child was like a mother.

I have always considered likeness as an argument of a child's being the son of a parent, and rather as the distinction between individuals in the human species, is more discernible than in other animals: a man may survey ten thousand people before he sees two faces perfectly alike; and in an army of an hundred thousand men, every one may be known from another. If there should be a likeness of features, there may be dissimilarity of voice, a difference in the gesture, the smile, and various other things; whereas a family likeness runs generally through all these, for in every thing there is a resemblance, as of features, size, attitude, and action; and here 'tis a question, whether the appellant most resembled his father Sir John, or the younger, Sholto, resembled his mother Lady Jane? Many witnesses have sworn to Mr. Douglas being of the same form and

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make of body as his father; he has been known to be the son of Colonel Stewart, by persons who had never seen him before; and is so like his elder brother, the present Sir John Stewart, that, except by their age, it would be hard to distinguish the one from the other.

If Sir John Stewart, the most artless of mankind, was actor in the enlèvement of Mignon and Sanry's children, he did in a few days what the acutest genius could not accomplish for years. He found two children; the one, the finished model of himself; and the other, the exact picture in miniature of Lady Jane. It seems nature had implanted in the children what is not in the parents: for it appears in proof, that in size, complexion, stature, attitude, colour of the hair and eyes, nay, and in every other thing, Mignon and his wife, Sanry and his spouse, were *totally* different from, and unlike to Sir John Stewart and Lady Jane Douglas.

The respondent's cause has been well supported by the ingenuity of its managers, and great stress has been laid upon the not finding out the house where madam la Bruin lived, and where the delivery was effected; but this is no way striking, if we consider that houses are frequently pulled down to make way for streets, and houses are built upon the ground where streets run before: of this there are daily examples in this metropolis. However, we need enter into no argument of this kind, as there is a positive evidence before us, and not is it possible to credit the witnesses, some of them of a sacred character, when they speak of Lady Jane's virtues, provided we can believe

her to have been a woman of such abandoned principles, as to make a mock of religion, a jest of the sacrament, a scoff of the most solemn oaths, and rush with a lie in her mouth, and perjury in her right-hand, into the presence of the Judge of all, who at once sees the whole heart of man, and from whose all-discerning eye no secrecy can screen, before whom neither craft nor artifice can avail, nor yet the ingenuity and wit of lawyers can lessen or exculpate; on all which accounts, I am for finding the appellant to be the son of Lady Jane Douglas.

It is remarkable, that during this speech, his lordship (probably through the agitation of his spirits) fainted away: however, he soon recovered and went through that part left unfinished by this accident, with uncommon forcibility and power.—And so satisfactory and conclusive were the arguments suggested in the above celebrated speeches, that when the question was put, there seemed but one voice in the whole assembly notwithstanding which, it was not unanimous, as appears by the following protest.

The Lords Protest on the Douglas Cause, Dec. 27. February 1769.
Dissentient.

"Because upon the whole of the evidence it appears to us that the Appellant has not proved himself to be the son of Lady Jane Douglas, and consequently not entitled to the character of Heir apparent to the Duke of Douglas.

"Because

"Because we are of opinion that it is proved, that the Appellant is *not* the son of Lady Jane Douglas."

BEDFORD, DUNMORE,
BRISTOL, C. P. S. MILTON.
SANDWICH,

It has been asserted by good authority, that, the joy expressed on the news of this much wish'd-for event in Scotland, is not to be expressed! The Lord President, who gave the casting vote, on the decision of this affair at Edinburgh, was insulted; and it was with great difficulty, that the populace were restrained from committing violence on several of the members of that court.—The estate, which was the occasion of this great contest, is said to amount to upwards of 17,000l. a year.

Abstract of the Trial of Mr. BARETTI, the celebrated Italian, who was indicted for the Murder of EVAN MORGAN, at the Sessions-House, in the Old-Baily, on Friday the 20th of Oct. 1769.

IT appeared by the evidence of Elizabeth Ward, that on the 6th of October last, between nine and ten in the evening, she heard a woman (whom she had never seen before) ask the prisoner to give her a glass of wine, and at the same time saw her take hold of him with her hand, in an indecent manner, on which he went on a little, but directly turned back, and hit the evidence, who was standing by the other woman, a violent blow on the face with his double fist! she then screamed out, and three young men, whom

she was not acquainted with, came up, and asked him, "How he could strike a woman!" and by once or twice shoving against him, pushed him off the pavement. Baretti then drew a knife, and ran up Panton-street, the young men following him, crying "Murder! he has a knife out!" and the witnesses believed it was then the deceased was stabbed.

Thomas Patman deposed, that he was in company with Morgan on the above night, and one Clark; that he saw the prisoner strike a woman, whom he did not know, on the head, and, on her screaming, Morgan and Clark pushed the evidence in a slight manner against Baretti, who gave him a blow on the left side, and immediately the blood ran down into his shoe: He cried out he was stabbed; Baretti retreated; Morgan pursued him half way up Panton-street, and there Patman saw Morgan receive a wound from him, and fall.

The deposition of John Clark corroborated, in most respects, what the last witness had sworn; but, on his cross examination, it appeared that Patman did not know he was stabbed, till Baretti ran into Panton-street; and that he (Clark) swore before the coroner that Morgan collared Baretti, before he knew Patman was wounded, and that one of the women said, the prisoner ought to have a knock over the head with her patten.

By the evidence of Mr. Lambert, a tallow-chandler in Panton-street, it appeared that Baretti ran into a grocer's shop, opposite his house; Patman was standing at the door, with the blood running down his shirt, and said a gentleman

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man in the shop and stabbed him; on which the witness, who was a constable, called to Baretti (who had a knife in one hand, with a silver case over the blade, which was bloody) to surrender, and immediately sprang upon him, seized him by the collar, and secured him.

One of the patients in the Middlesex-hospital, when Morgan was there, declared, that the latter said he saw a gentleman assault a couple of women on which he went, without meaning any offence, to their assistance, and was stabbed by Baretti in two places, who afterwards turned round, and stabbed him again, which wound hurt him more than the two first.

Mr. Wyatt, the surgeon, declared, that Morgan received three wounds, one of which was in the belly, which occasioned his death. That when he was dressing Patman, on the witness's asking how the affair happened, Clark said they saw a *Gentleman* abusing a *Lady*, who was an acquaintance of Morgan's, who pushed Clark against Patman, and that Clark pushed him against the prisoner; that neither of them struck him; but he believed the woman damned him for a French *Bugger*, and said he ought to have his head clove with a patten. On Mr. Wyatt's asking Clark, a little after, if the woman was acquainted with him, he said No; and even denied that she was an acquaintance of Morgan's, though he had declared she was but two minutes before.

Mr. Baretti, then read the following paper in his own defence.

"On Friday, the 6th, I spent the whole day at home correcting my Italian and English Dictionary,

which is actually reprinting and working off, and upon another book in four volumes, which is to be published in February next, and has been advertised in the newspapers. I went, a little after four, to the club of Royal Academicians in Soho, where I stopped about half an hour, waiting for my friends, and warming myself in the club-room. Upon no-body's coming, I went to the Orange coffee-house, to see if a letter was come for me, for my letters come there, but there was none. I went back to go to the club, and going hastily up the Hay-market, there was a woman at a door; they say there were two, but I took notice of but one, as I hope God will save me: there might have been two, though I only saw one: that is a fact. There was a woman eight or ten yards from the corner of Panton-street, and she clapped her hands with such violence about my private parts, that it gave me great pain. This I instantly resented, by giving her a blow on the hand, with a few angry words. The woman got up directly, raised her voice, and finding by my pronunciation I was a foreigner, she called me several bad names in a most contumelious strain; among which, *French Bugger* d—ned Frenchman, and woman-hater, were the most audible. I had not quite turned the corner, before a man made me turn back, by giving me a blow with his fist, and asking me how I dare strike a woman; another pushed him against me, and pushed me off the pavement; then three or four more joined them. I wonder I did not fall from the high step which is there. The path way is much raised

raised from the coach-way. A great number of people surrounded me presently, many beating me, and all d—ning me on every side, in a most frightful manner, I was a Frenchman in their opinion, which made me apprehensive I must expect no favour nor protection, but all outrage and blows. There is generally a great puddle in the corner of Panton-street, even when the weather is fine; but that day it had rained incessantly, which made it very slippery. I could plainly perceive my assailants wanted to throw me into the puddle, where I might be trampled on; so I cried out Murder! There was a space in the circle, from whence I ran into Panton-street, and endeavoured to get into the foot-way. I was in the greatest horror, lest I should run against some stones, as I have such bad eyes. I could not run so fast as my pursuers, so that they were upon me, continually beating and pushing me. Some of them attempting to catch me by the hair-tail: if this had happened, I had been certainly a lost man. I cannot absolutely fix the time and place where I first struck. I remember, somewhere in Panton-street, I gave a quick blow, to one who beat off my hat with his fist. When I was in Oxendon-street, fifteen or sixteen yards from the Hay-market, I stopped and faced about. My confusion was great, and seeing a shop open, I ran into it for protection, quite spent with fatigue. I am certainly sorry for the man, but he owed his death to his own daring impetuosity. Three men came into the shop, one of them cried to me to surrender myself to him, who was a constable, I asked them if they were honest men, and

friends; they said Yes. I put up my knife, desired them to arrest me, begged they would send for a coach, and take me to Sir John Fielding. I appeal to them how I behaved, when I surrendered, and how thankful I was for their kind protection. Sir John heard what I and the men had to say. They sent me into a room below, from whence I dispatched a man to the club in Gerrard-street; when Sir Joshua Reynolds and other gentlemen came to me. A messenger was dispatched to the Middlesex-hospital, where the said Morgan was carried. A surgeon came, and took his oath that Morgan was in danger. Sir John committed me to Tothill-fields-bridewell. Two gentlemen, as well as the constable, can witness to my behaviour when the coachman lost his way, which forced us to alight in the mire and darkness, in order to find the way to Tothill-fields-bridewell. I humbly conceive this will shew I had no intention of escaping. That woful night I passed without rest. My face had been observed to be hurt, while I was at Sir John Fielding's; and the constable was the first who took notice of a blow I had received on my chin. But when the heat and fear had subsided, I found a great pain in divers parts of my body. Mr. Molini and Mr. Low being with me, desired me to let them see what was the matter with my back, which I complained of. I stripped, and they saw several bruises—This, my Lord, and Gentlemen of the Jury, is the best account I can give of my unfortunate accident: for what is done in two or three minutes, in fear and terror, is not to be minutely described; and the Court and

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and the Jury are to judge. I hope your Lordship, and every person present, will think that a man of my age, character, and way of life, would not spontaneously quit my pen to engage in an outrageous tumult. I hope it will easily be conceived, that a man almost blind could not but be seized with terror, on such a sudden attack as this. I hope it will be seen, that my knife was neither a weapon of offence or defence: I wear it to carve fruit and sweetmeats, and not to kill my fellow-creatures. It is a general custom in France, not to put knives upon the table, so that even ladies wear them in their pockets for general use. I have continued to wear it after my return, because I have found it occasionally convenient. Little did I think such an event would ever have happened. — Let this trial turn out as favourable as my innocence may deserve, still my regret will endure as long as life shall last. A man who has lived full fifty years, and has spent most of that time in a studious manner, I hope will not be supposed to have voluntarily engaged in so desperate an affair. I beg leave, my Lord and Gentlemen, to add one thing more. Equally confident of my own innocence, and English discernment to trace out truth, I did resolve to waive the privilege granted to foreigners by the laws of this kingdom; nor was my motive a compliment to this nation; my motive was my life and honour: that it should not be thought I received undeserved favour from a jury, part of my own country: I chose to be tried by a jury of this country; for if my honour is not saved, I cannot much wish for the

preservation of my life. I will wait for the determination of this awful Court with that confidence, I hope, which innocence has a right to obtain. So God bless you all."

Mr. Lambert corroborated Mr. Baretti's account of his having received a blow, by saying his face was swelled, and that his hat was lost.

Mr. Molini saw several bruises on Mr. Baretti's shoulder, and on his back, and a swelling on his cheek, the day after this scuffle.

Mr. Low visited Mr. Baretti in Bridewell, and saw six or seven bruises in several parts of his body. Justice Kelynge, Mr. Petrin, and Major Alderton deposed, that they had been attacked in a most indecent manner by abandoned women in the Hay-market, who were attended by bullies. Sir Joshua Reynolds, Dr. Johnson, Mr. Fitzherbert, and Mr. Edmund Burke, appeared in support of Mr. Baretti's character, who all said he was a man of great learning, modestly, sobriety, and benevolence. Mr. Garrick, Mr. Molini, and the Hon. Mr. Beauchamp, corroborated their testimony, and declared it was usual for every one who travelled abroad to carry such knives as that which the prisoner unfortunately made use of.

The Jury acquitted him of murder, and of manslaughter, and brought in their verdict, *Self-defence*.

Narrative of the celebrated Cause between Mr. WILKES and the Earl of HALLIFAX.

AS this important cause, so long depending, has lately been decided, and must in its nature

ture be highly interesting to the public; we here present our readers with an authentic narrative of the particulars; to which are added the celebrated speeches delivered at the trial.

On the second of May, 1763, Mr. Wilkes was taken up and committed to the Tower of London, by a general warrant, on suspicion of writing the North-Briton, No. 45, where he remained till the sixth of the same month; he commenced an action against lord Halifax for the same, on the first of June following; which suit was procrastinated till Mr. Wilkes was outlawed in November 1764, when the affair dropped. But the outlawry being reversed on the eighth of June 1768, the court of Common Pleas was moved on the twentieth of the same month, that Mr. Wilkes might have leave to revive his cause, which was accordingly granted soon after; and on Friday the tenth of November, the trial came on in that court, before Sir John Eardly Wilmot, and a special jury, consisting of the following gentlemen.

George Colson Smith, esq. Poplar.
Edward Bulkley Batson, esq. Hatton-garden.

David Walker, esq. Kensington.
Edward Buckley, esq. Essex-street.
Nicholas Marrisall, esq. East-street.

Robert Carey, esq. Hamstead.
Robert Hucks, esq. Great Russell-street.

Josiah Holford, esq. Southampton-row.

John Gould, esq. Hart-street.

Samuel Hartly, esq. Lincoln's-inn-fields.

Henage Robinson, esq. Church-street, Hackney.

The following was added as tales, according to the statute, &c. Robert Gibson, of Red lion-street, Clerkenwell, Coal-merchant.

The trial began about nine o'clock, when the lords Weymouth and Rochford being summoned, they appeared, but desired to be dispatched as soon as possible, as it was post day; whereupon serjeant Glynn asked them if they had the general warrant in their possession, granted by lord Halifax to seize Mr. Wilkes's papers? and on their answering in the negative, the serjeant told them that was all he wanted to know of them, and they retired.

On the examination of Mr. Blackmore, (one of his majesty's messengers) on behalf of Mr. Wilkes, in regard to the seizure of his papers, he honestly confessed that upon Mr. Wilkes's refusing him the key of his bureau, he, agreeable to his orders, *picked the lock and swept away every paper he found.*

Colonel Onslow was asked if he had ever been in possession of a letter from the earls of Egremont and Halifax*; to which he replied

* The letter in question was an answer to the following, and is also subjoined.

My Lords,

Great George Street, May 6, 1763.

On my return here from Westminster-hall, where I have been discharged from my commitment to the Tower, under your lordship's warrant, I find that

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plied he could not recollect. Serjeant Glynn then desired him to repeat what he had said In the H—e of C—s, concerning the said letter, when the colonel answered, "No power on earth should make him disclose any thing that had passed in that house, without their permission."

On this Serjeant Glynn appealed to the judge, whether there was any thing improper in the request; to which the judge replied there was not. Colonel Onslow then said, that he might have been possessed of such letter, but it had totally escaped his memory; he, however, recollected having seen something of the kind in print, but did not know whether he ever was in possession of the original.

The right hon. lord Temple, Humphrey Coats, esq. and Mr. Beardmore, were the principal evidence for the plaintiff; and Philip Carteret Webb, esq. late solicitor to the Treasury, and Lovel Stanhope, esq. law-clerk, were examined in behalf of the defendant. The counsel for Mr. Wilkes, were Mr. Serjeant Glynn, Mr. Serjeant Leigh; and Mr. Davenport, attorney; Mr. Reynolds under-sheriff.—Counsel for lord Hallifax, the Serjeants Davy, Whitaker, and Nares.

In the course of the trial, nothing very remarkable happened, more than what has been mentioned, except the following speeches, which do honour to their authors, and are well worthy notice.

that my house has been robbed, and am informed that the stolen goods are in possession of one or both of your lordships. I therefore insist that you do forthwith return them to

Your humble servant

John Wilkes.

The answer in question was as follows:

Sir,

Great George-street, May 7, 1763.

In answer to your letter of yesterday, in which you take upon you to make use of indecent and scurrilous expressions of your having found your house had been robbed, and that the stolen goods are in our possession; we acquaint you that your papers were seized in consequence of the heavy charge-brought against you, for being the author of an infamous and seditious libel, tending to inflame the minds and alienate the affections of the people from his majesty, and excite them to traiterous insurrections against the government, for which libel, notwithstanding your discharge from the Tower, his majesty has ordered you to be prosecuted by the attorney general.

We are at a loss to guess what you mean by stolen goods; but such of your papers as do not tend to a proof of guilt shall be restored; such as are necessary for that purpose it was not our duty to deliver to those, whose office it is to collect the prosecution against you.

We are your humble servants,

Egremont.

Dunk Halifax.

Mr.

Mr. Serjeant W——'s Speech.

MAY it please your lordship, and you gentlemen of the jury, I am counsel for the defendant, against whom Mr. W—— has brought this action, in order to recover damages for the injury he has sustained during an imprisonment for four days, under an illegal general warrant. These warrants have been declared by the most solemn authority, to be contrary to law; my client submits himself with cheerfulness and respect to that decision which has condemned them. There is scarce a single person in the kingdom, who is ignorant of the determination of the courts of law in the affair of general warrants, nor is there the least probability that any future minister will dare to issue them. What emolument then can the public receive from this action? With what public-spirited view does W—— demand a pecuniary indemnification for himself? Will he consider himself as a trustee for the public? Does he intend to build a church, or raise an altar to Liberty, with the money which he expects you should give him in damages. I think I see reason to doubt that he acts with so disinterested a view for the public good, since my learned brother has told you in his opening, and has attempted to produce evidence to you, that the fine he expects from you will be levied, not upon lord H——'s private fortune, but from the public treasury. He, who brings this action merely for the sake of the public, will take this money from the earnings of the industrious poor. What imminent danger now calls W—— out to be the public

champion? Mr. B. another patriot, has already stood in the gap, and in the cause of Liberty already received 1500 l. of the public money. So much for the danger to which the nation has been exposed by the exercise of the general warrants. Let us now examine the injury which Mr. W—— in particular has received from them: in asserting these damages the jury are to examine as by a writ of enquiry, not as an indignant jury, as my learned brother attempts to direct them. The difference arising to Mr. W—— from being taken up by a legal warrant, or by this warrant, is to be considered, and on that he is to be indemnified: what favourable or unfavourable events have occurred to Mr. W——, arising from his own conduct, whether proper or improper, it does not become us to consider; as these changes of fortune can with no propriety be attributed to the signing the general warrant, neither can an indemnification with any justice be demanded of lord H—— for them.

Mr. W—— voluntarily withdrew himself into France; he was not banished by, or in consequence of, this warrant;—as my Lord H—— was not the cause of his migration from this country, so neither did he take advantage of his absence. We might have brought this suit to a very short period; we might have demurred to his outlawry, and have had judgment of course in our favour. But this advantage his lordship disdained to take. We waited with patience till the outlawry was reversed; we then hoped the cause would have been heard with all possible expedition; but

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but, by the plaintiff's blundering in not giving a term's notice afterwards, by the rules of this court, the cause could not be heard. The plaintiff never desired the noble peer, my client, to waive his privilege, as is the constant custom in such cases, nor did he apply to the House of Lords, who would have compelled the defendant to have waived his privilege.

There is now in court the strongest proof, that the defendant cannot justly be charged with procrastinating this trial; you yourselves, gentlemen of the jury, were impannelled to try this cause by the under-sheriff, who is attorney in the cause, and therefore it was in his lordship's power to take exceptions to every one of you; but, his lordship was far from entertaining any such design: he is happy in having such disinterested judges of his behaviour in regard to Mr. W—s, of which I shall now give you a very short account, which I shall establish by incontrovertible evidence.

When it was thought proper by the government to animadvert upon the authors of a political writing, and to examine Mr. W— with respect to it, Lord H— sent a message to Mr. W— desiring to speak to him; was that a proof of private enmity to Mr. W—? Upon Mr. W—'s refusing to comply with this message, it was thought proper to arrest him; but the officer employed for that purpose was commanded to treat him with all possible civility. Before it was mentioned to Lord H— that orders were given to issue a writ of Habeas Corpus, Mr. W— was sent to the Tower. It will appear to you that the general warrant was

not framed by Lord H— for the purpose of oppressing Mr. W—. It will appear that Lord H— objected to the form of it, and refused to sign it, till he was assured that it had been the constant form handed down from almost time immemorial; used by the favourites of the people, and true friends of the constitution; approved and confirmed by the then law-officers of the crown.

It would be an enormous aggravation of his lordship's offence, if either the general warrant, or the warrant of commitment to the Tower, had been of his lordship's coinage, and fresh from the mint; but you will find that the latter, as well as the former, had passed the most respectable hands. And as soon as he was informed of the unexpected use that had been made of his warrant to exclude Mr. W—'s friends from seeing him, he immediately wrote a general order to the lieutenant of the Tower, to admit every person that Mr. W— might be willing to see. Whatever may since have occasioned such a change in Mr. W—'s sentiments, the conduct of his lordship was so satisfactory to Mr. W— at that time, that soon after he was discharged from confinement, he confessed that Lord H— had behaved to him in a manner becoming a gentleman; and even expressed some gratitude for his lordship's civility. That his lordship, who was not bred a lawyer, nor enquiring judicially into the merits of general warrants, should be mistaken in his idea of the propriety of them, ought not to appear surprising to you, when you are told that these warrants have made their appearance uncensured in Westminster-hall,

hall, and that my Lord Chief Justice Holt himself had taken bail upon them. I utterly deny, that the practice of office could entirely justify his lordship's conduct; but I am persuaded that it requires very few words to convince you to what a degree it extenuates the offence. What punishment you shall think proper to inflict upon his lordship, by your fine, or rather what damages to allot Mr. W— for his suffering, I shall not presume to suggest to you. He charges for the damage done to his house, under the general warrant, 40l. for breaking open a door, 200l. for breaking open bolts, locks, and escutores, for damage to his library, &c. 300l. and in some other sums, which, upon my calculation, comes to fourteen hundred and forty pounds; but by his, at the end of his declaration, it comes to twenty thousand pounds. He has recovered 1000 l. for breaking his house from Mr. W—, and the jury has, in this case, only to consider what real detriment it was to Mr. W— to be imprisoned four days.

*The following is Mr. Serjeant G—'s
Reply to the above Speech.*

My Lord, and Gentlemen of the Jury.

YOU have heard the argument which the counsel for the defendant makes use of, to lessen the damages which my client has laid in his declaration against the earl of H—; but notwithstanding the ingenuity with which the case has been stated, I differ entirely, both from Mr. Serjeant W—'s own estimate, and that which he has calculated for me.

With respect to the measure of damages, I do not desire you, gentlemen of the jury, to exert a headstrong blind indignation, but I assert vengeance on those who have injured the laws of your country, to be the proper object of your indignant spirits, and which call on you to make the most liberal, and at the same time the most considerate appreciation of the wrongs those laws have sustained. What the consequence might be to Mr. W—s, from the natural tendency of the measures pursued by the noble lord, not what damage actually did attend them, is highly proper and necessary for your consideration. That these effects did not follow, Mr. W—s is not in the least degree indebted to the humanity of the noble defendant, any more than he is to his lordship's candour, for the extortion of justice by the voice of a kingdom. It is not for interest he brings this action, but to deter, by no small damages, future ministers from pursuing measures, which they find have led their predecessors to ruin; and by no small damages are ministers to be terrified; and few men, in whole revolving ages, can be found, who dare oppose themselves to the forces of tyranny, and whose single breasts contained the spirit of nations. And it is to the high, firm, and glorious spirits, such as Mr. H—n and Mr. W—s, that the inhabitants of this country are indebted for their exemption from arbitrary taxation of their property, and uncertain enjoyment of their personal liberty. And should you, in this cause, gentlemen, as no doubt you will, act with the noble zeal of Englishmen, it must appear to the public,

lic, the record must be graced with it, that a British jury inflicted an exemplary fine on the minister, who daringly deprived the champion of his country's freedom, of his own liberty.

How Mr. W—s will think proper to apply the partial remuneration of his injuries, becomes not us to enquire; but that the noble peer should suffer for his misconduct, by a pecuniary mulct, is of the highest importance to us, and due in justice to Mr. W—s. It has been asked by my learned brother, in his usual vein of pleasantry, and to relieve your spirits after so long and serious attention, whether Mr. W—s would build a church, or erect an altar to Liberty? Yes, he will raise an altar to Liberty, in the memory of all friends to the constitution; you, gentlemen, will have the honour of assisting him in the glorious work, and your names will be inscribed upon it.

I would not trifle with your time; I would not be so insolent as to suppose that a Middlesex jury would suspect or imagine that it was for bolts, locks, or doors broken, that this action was brought: that such particulars were estimated at 200*l.* others at 300*l.* and that the liberty of Mr. W—es was to be estimated at 500*l.* The valuation of liberty is new to the law. The constitution of the courts of law fix no value upon the liberty of individuals, any more than good citizens can estimate, at any price, the liberty of the public.

It has been insinuated, that Mr. W—s has not pursued with activity, those who have been guilty of this encroachment upon his li-

berty. But, on the contrary, I am persuaded, and affirm, and trust that you too will be convinced, that Mr. W—es took every step to accelerate the cause, and that L—d H—x took every possible step to retard the cause. After issues upon issues accumulated upon him for small sums, my L—d H—x has been dragged into court as a delinquent to 500*l.* As long as the record of outlawry subsisted, no farther step could be taken by Mr. W—es; that outlawry has been lately reversed, and we have now, after all the unavoidable delays of law, assisted by the authority of privilege, happily brought this delinquent to answer to you for his conduct, and to make some satisfaction for his injustice.

I am charged with attributing to my L—d H—x, personal malice against Mr. W—s, without proof. The idea the law has annexed to malice, is a depraved mind, exerting itself against persons who have really offered no injury, or none adequate to the resentment kindled and bursting out into action against them. And the court always supposes that kind of malice where no sufficient cause of maltreatment appears, it must therefore be either malice against W—s or depraved motives against the constitution itself, which prompted and impelled the noble peer to the enormities that have been discovered and demonstrated to you by the evidence equally of defendant and plaintiff.

Mr. W—s arrested, the custody is almost instantaneously changed, and he is sent with amazing expedition to strict and close confinement to the Tower. Mr. W—b says, such directions were given by L—d E—t in the presence

presence of lord H—, silent and unopposing, as shocked even him: from which conduct we must infer, malice; and such malice appears of all sizes, in the procedure of the defendant, as evince his action to have been entirely under the malignant authority of that passion.

The North-Briton is charged in the first warrant as treasonable; afterwards, that severe appellation was dropped: why then, but to warrant and justify an intention to treat Mr. W—es with severity, was it ever assumed? Their l—s, it seems, had followed the course of precedents; they had previously taken the opinions of the attorney and solicitor-general, and how far they could oppress Mr. W—es was the constant subject of their conferences after his arrest.

No hardship, it is said, was occasioned by this warrant; yet under this very identical warrant were W—s's papers seized, by means of which papers, so illegally obtained, the noble peer and associate have persecuted him even to the ruin of his fair hopes and expectations in life, of his fortune, and at this moment, he is imprisoned in consequence of it.

It would have become the secretaries to have sent for him, made him all the amends in their power, and to have discharged him from his confinement; but they, artfully and disingenuously, offered to bail him, when they knew he was in confinement under an illegal warrant.

For fear the meaning of close confinement should not be sufficiently understood at the Tower, a particular verbal explanation was

sent by these humane secretaries, of what they desired his confinement should be; and what kind of imprisonment did they direct? Even that of the most atrocious state-prisoner; the supposed author of a libel was ordered to the confinement of a traitor; to see no friends, no relations; to be prevented from making proof of his innocence, for want of advice; and when the rigour of his confinement was relaxed, and softened, as they stile it, to be able to communicate nothing in confidence to his friends, to his lawyers, but every word and action must pass the observation of two officers of the Tower.

Such was the confinement to which Mr. W— was doomed by lord H—x: but this mode of imprisonment has been exercised, we are told, in a more tyrannical degree than Mr. W—s experienced. I take it for granted, that those precedents of warrants for close imprisonment, which have been produced in such clouds, are just; and I do moreover believe, that there is not a species of tyranny which may not be warranted by the practice of the secretary of state's office; but if these precedents were his guides, the noble peer had little of the spirit of an Englishman, if, at the sight of such, he did not start and refuse to follow them. If these precedents were unknown to him, and the form new, the offence against the law was entirely his own, and he must be considered as the author of the precedent; by which conduct he has raised and introduced a spirit of examination, that will exert itself in censuring him, because it is plain he govern-
ed

ed himself by rules inconsistent with the laws of this country; and will stigmatize the secretary's office, because we now see it is the custom of that office to pursue methods destructive of every barrier, which the wisdom of our ancestors interposed between the power of the crown, and the liberty of the people;

These rules and customs the noble peer hath followed; nor does he give any reasonable hopes, that if it were in his power, he would not observe the same again; he expresses no compunction, he does not confess that he has acted upon mistaken principle. But even if he had expressed concern for the injury he has done, if he had not made an offer of indemnification at the same time, you would not have accepted of such repentance.

We all know upon whom the expence will light of indemnifying Mr. W—s for the injury he has received, from the laws, which the noble peer takes for his rule of conduct; that they are not the laws of this country we all know likewise; yet such has been the economy of the treasury, and such the obstinacy of the noble defendant, that I am firmly convinced, that 100,000 l. would have been gladly expended towards maintaining them.

But I hope and believe these things will be enquired into shortly in a proper place; you too, gentlemen of the jury, in your province in forming a verdict, will provide, that it may be an instructive example to posterity, by giving vindictive damages, which go hand in hand with exemplary justice.

Thus far the learned Serjeant; and here, we might, with no great

impropriety, close this narrative with the mention of the jury's verdict; but, we are unwilling to omit what will doubtless be very entertaining to our readers, viz. a summary of the evidence, with the lord chief justice's charge to the jury; which was as follows:

Gentlemen of the Jury.

THIS is an action, wherein J—W—, esq. is plaintiff, and the right hon. G—M—D—, E— of H—, the defendant. It is an action of trespass for false imprisonment, brought by the plaintiff; it is in the form of a declaration, for breaking and entering his dwelling-house, and there making a noise and disturbance, breaking open locks, and taking away his papers, and likewise for falsely imprisoning his person several days in the Tower. The substantial part of the claim in this action is for seizing his papers and person without a legal authority. Gentlemen, to this declaration, the defendant has pleaded, he is not guilty of the fact; and the whole matter to be tried in this action is, whether he is guilty or not guilty, in order to assess such damages as you shall think proper. It has been proved, over and over again, and there is no manner of doubt, that the imprisonment was illegal, and likewise the seizing of the plaintiff's papers. It comes now singly before you to assess the damages, which you think the plaintiff ought to recover under all the circumstances. The plaintiff has called several witnesses to maintain his case set out in his declaration. On the part of the defendant it is admitted,

admitted, and so it most certainly appears to be to every body that ever heard a cause, that the warrant whereby the plaintiff was imprisoned, and his papers seized, was an illegal warrant; it has undergone the consideration of this court, and likewise of the court of King's Bench, and has been deemed illegal, and very properly so, by every judge who has seen it, therefore it is impossible to justify it; and there is no pretence or foundation for the defendant in this cause to make any sort of stand against this action, by way of justification, in the way he has done, because it clearly and manifestly is an illegal warrant, contrary to the common law of the land; and if warrants of this kind had been reckoned legal, I am sure, as one of the plaintiff's witnesses observed, it is extremely proper for the authority of this kingdom to interpose and provide a remedy, because all the private papers of a man, as well as his liberty, would be in the power of a secretary of state, or any of his servants. The law does not make any difference between great and petty officers; thank God, they are all amenable to justice, and the law will reach them, if they step over the boundaries the law has prescribed. Gentlemen, it is material for your consideration, that this warrant, in the form of it, is illegal; yet still it is not a warrant of their own original framing, it was in conformity to many precedents, in their office, from the time of the Revolution. About the 3d or 4th of James II. there had been warrants of the same sort in the office, which were directed in the same form, and there-

fore the use made of this evidence is to try to take off a great part of the imputation of malice, which has been attempted to be proved, to dispossess you of any idea of malignity in the defendant in granting it, and to shew you that he did not do it without precedent. If wrong, it was a precedent mistake. With regard to the evidence for the defendant, there have been a great number of warrants read; the first evidence they give, is a reference to the then attorney and solicitor-general, and I will read to you first of all what the reference says, and then the answer.

[The precedents were read, forty one in all; about fifty more were produced but not read; then J—W— was called, Mr. A—, and next P—C—W—, and L—S—, esqrs. The last piece of evidence produced on the part of the defendant was to prove, that the plaintiff had obtained a verdict of 1000 l. against Mr. W—, for an action against him for the seizure of his papers.] This is the evidence laid before you.

As to the warrant, I have said enough concerning the illegality of it; it comes then to be rightly and truly nothing more than this, that this gentleman has been imprisoned falsely by an illegal warrant, without a proper authority, that he has been kept in custody from Saturday the 30th of April to the Friday following, and then set at liberty by this court; he was confined seven days before he was discharged, and he has had his papers taken away by force likewise, by this illegal warrant; and therefore, you are under all these circumstances to assert and

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affects the damages, you think he ought to recover for this seizure of papers and false imprisonment.

You all very well know what vast deference I always pay, and ever will, to that part of the office of a jury which properly belongs to them. I never did, nor ever will, while I have the honour of executing the office of a judge, attempt to controul or influence the minds of a jury, in respect to damages, but submit to them such observations as occur to me upon the evidence, but not by way of controuling them: I dare say, I have said the same an hundred times, and as the gentlemen at the bar have industriously avoided, upon both sides, pointing at any particular sum you shall give, I will as industriously avoid pointing at it too, and leave it to you to judge as you shall think proper. In regard to the law, I have always been as tenacious of the proper function of a judge, as I have been of the jury. When a question comes before me upon a point of law, I shall always take an opportunity, when the jury are not to interpose in it, to explain it to them; and with regard to facts, I shall take them as I take the law: that being the case, you are to take all the circumstances of this cause into your consideration. There is another reason why I will say very little more to you than what is my duty, which is, that when a special jury of the first rank of people in the country appear to try a fact, there is not so much necessity for a judge to descant upon the nature of a cause, as there is to an inferior rank of men, perhaps, not so well acquainted with, nor so

properly qualified to balance such a cause as this.

There is another thing I shall mention to you, which is, that no prejudices, of whatsoever kind, should influence you; it is my opinion, you all come here as unprejudiced and dispassionate to try this cause as I myself do, and therefore all things said out of doors, all papers and pamphlets, and every thing either in writing or conversation, are always in the administration of justice to be totally laid out of the minds of judges and jury; they must be blind, deaf, and dumb to every thing but the evidence before them; they must divest their minds of whatever papers may influence them; I speak for myself; I have not read three papers about it, and I never do about any thing; I keep my mind free from every thing that may come before me of that kind: to be sure, there has been, with regard to the plaintiff, a necessity for me to read and look into the law; with regard to any thing else, I never suffered myself to be biassed or affected by the reports or reading of such papers or pamphlets, as are wrote with an endeavour to pervert justice. Much has been said upon both sides, which does not particularly apply to this cause; in direct terms, it is the evidence, and the propriety of what arises necessarily and immediately from the evidence, that you are to form your judgment upon.

Now, gentlemen, in the first place, it appears most clearly that the plaintiff has been taken up unlawfully, has been imprisoned seven days, has had his papers rifled, examined, and seized, that those papers

papers have been likewise improperly and illegally taken notice of; and by the letter that has been read to you, it appears that such of them as could not tend to prove the charge against him would be returned, and such as would prove him guilty would not; that he has had these papers taken from his house without the least pretence of right whatsoever. As to the declaration, gentlemen, that is nothing in regard to breaking locks and doors, and all these kind of things; they are only formal words; the damage upon them is nothing; the damage is for the unlawful imprisoning him, and taking his papers without a proper authority; and there has been a most plain, gross injury done him, and it is plainly and grossly a violation of the laws. You are not, in asserting the damages, to turn your eyes upon the broken locks and doors, mentioned in the declaration; the spirit of the thing is for seizing his person, and confining him seven days, and for unlawfully keeping his papers. Another fact is proper to be considered; the manner of doing it: it has been proved to you, that, with regard to sending him to the Tower, and committing him close prisoner, there has been an order in the warrant directing him to be kept close prisoner; there has been a direction given by Lord E——, in the defendant's presence, a verbal order, not to admit any body to see him, which is a thing extremely unlawful. There is another thing mentioned with regard to the change of custody: as to that I own there does not seem to me to be that difference contended

for; it appears that the plaintiff was taken up and brought to the defendant, and that there was a Habeas Corpus applied for, but then it was applied for improperly, and therefore it cannot be considered as evidence before you. I do not see (but that must be for your consideration) that any manner of oppression from the changing the custody, appears from the evidence before us. It does not appear that the secretary of state knew that the Habeas Corpus was applied for, *before* the warrant for sending him to the Tower was prepared and signed. It does not appear that they knew it, from any thing I can see; they best know whether they did or not. There was some hurry about it, but I do not see any thing has been proved of any intention to oppress the plaintiff, because they did not know, at the time they signed the warrant, that the Habeas Corpus was applied for: there must be some mistake about that, as it did not come to the defendant's knowledge. You know very well I never give myself the liberty to enforce words, but give them you precisely; you are to consider the evidence, and to judge whether or not you think that this custody was changed by the secretaries of state, with an intention to injure the plaintiff: if so, it would be an aggravation of the illegal treatment. As to his being ill-treated, upon my oath, I cannot say I see any sort of ill usage; there does not seem to be the least ill usage designed him; there does not seem to be any aggravation arising out of this matter. Upon the contrary, according to one of the witnesses, the plaintiff

plaintiff said the defendant behaved like a nobleman, and he should always respect him for it; upon the evidence I do not find that change of custody was meant as an aggravation.

Now, gentlemen, with regard to the proof before you, as I told you before, you are the only proper judges; as to the giving these orders, and the construction of them, it must be observed, that as soon as it was known that his friends were not to see him, Mr. W—— did endeavour to rectify it. It appears upon evidence, that, from the beginning of his knowledge of this transaction, he took all the pains he could to rectify it, and get the verbal orders relaxed, upon which he applied to the defendant, and he sent word that the plaintiff's friends might see him; but as to the behaviour throughout, it is nothing at all to this cause, as they had not a proper authority for detaining the plaintiff; therefore the point for you to consider is, whether the evidence that has been laid before us, on the behalf of the defendant, does not, in a great measure, draw out the sting of this warrant. With respect to the warrant, if the defendant had invented this warrant himself, if it had been the first issued out of his office, it would have been a prodigious aggravation; but you see from the evidence, that has been laid before you, that there has been an illegal course of office established from before the time of the Revolution to this time; that it has been animadverted upon in the several courts of justice, and these kinds of warrants have been issued; and, therefore, whatsoever error this gentleman may be guilty

of, it must appear he was a gentleman not acquainted with the law, and adopted this strange rule; if he has erred, he has erred with all the secretaries of state from that time. In regard to this, it has been adopted by those who have been as great friends to the laws of their country as any man could. The secretaries of state are not bred to the law, and find in their office a course of general warrants. Surely it would be a most unnecessary act of injustice to consider, and to treat this as an unprecedented act of oppression; it would be unjust, because there is a most essential and material difference; and you see further, that even when these gentlemen did start at the warrant, that the law-officer, that is, the solicitor of the treasury, there present, said, "That is the course of office; it has always been granted so; we are right in the thing; I will consent to no innovation." Has there been here any intention of this noble lord to subvert the liberty of the people? From the evidence there does not appear to be any such intention. You find he applied, from time to time, to the lawyers of the crown, and referred to them, and sent to them upon every thing that happened, for their direction: and the secretaries were both very desirous of doing right, and acting according to the direction of those that are best able to advise them; therefore I say, that is a material part of this cause in extenuating, or diminishing the damages which the plaintiff must recover in this action. With regard to the words *close confinement in the Tower*, it appears, that, even for libels, it has been usual to insert these words.

It

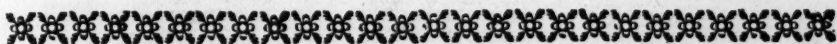
It clearly does not draw that part of the sting of the cause out, because the secretaries put their own construction upon it; they accompany it with verbal orders, that they should not admit any body to see the plaintiff. It is a great point in this cause, and would tend to the aggravation of the damages, if it had been really and truly a thing maliciously intended, in the first formation of the warrant against the plaintiff; then what arises has been told you at the bar, that the law always implies illegality; but as to any personal malice, I see none. As to any intention of subverting the laws and liberties of the people, I see none; but the proceeding was in course of office, in the manner found precedent; however, in regard to that part of the defence, it is material to observe, it was illegal; and upon the whole you must find a verdict for the plaintiff, and give him such damages as, under all the circumstances of this cause, you shall be of opinion he is intitled to; and I will go further, you are not to be confined to the seven days imprisonment and the seizure of papers, but you are to give him liberal damages. I do not mean when I say liberal what the law implies excessive; *excessus in jure reprobatur*. The law always condemns excess; it must be within the rules of rea-

son; the particular circumstances of the case are to govern it, and, as near as you can, you are to give that satisfaction and compensation which must bear a proper proportion to the injury that has been received, under all the circumstances; and therefore you will, upon the whole, take the matter into consideration, and find a verdict for the plaintiff, and give him such damages as you think he ought to receive for the injury committed.

After his lordship had summed up the evidence and delivered his charge, the jury retired for near an hour, when one half were for giving five thousand, and the other half, three thousand pounds damages; whereupon the difference was compromised, and four thousand pounds damages given.

The damages were laid for 20,000 l. but it has been asserted, that it is better for Mr. Wilkes, that the jury gave but 4000 l. because the latter he may recover, but the former might have been thought excessive—His lordship's behaviour throughout the whole of this important affair, gave general satisfaction.—Nothing could exceed his lordship's impartiality in summing up the evidence, nor was any thing of the kind ever pronounced with more propriety and spirit.

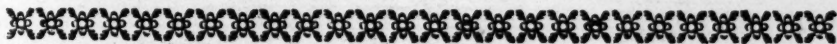




P A R T

T H E

S E C O N D.



M

In order to render this work as extensively intelligent and entertaining as possible, the Editors imagined, an account of the LONDON THEATRES would be no unwelcome offering.

The reader, will here find, an authentic list of every performance at the different theatres during the course of the year, with occasional remarks, in which the best authorities have been consulted.



T H E
THEATRICAL REGISTER:

O R,

A COMPLETE LIST of every PERFORMANCE at the
different THEATRES, for the YEAR 1769.

ILLUSTRATED WITH
CRITICAL OBSERVATIONS.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

January 2.

The HYPOCRITE.

A COMEDY.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

THIS piece is an alteration of *Colly Cibber's* NON-JUROR, which is not much improved. *Doctor Wolfe*, the nor-juring priest, is here metamorphosed into a *methodist* preacher, under the name of *Cantwell*. This, indeed, is a more modern character, and, probably, a fitter subject for ridicule; yet we think it falls short of *Wolfe*, in respect to its importance. In the piece before us, Mr. *Bickerstaff* has restored one of *Moliere's* * characters, expunged by *Cibber*, and added a new one of his own, viz. that of *Marv-worm*, a poor, deluded disciple of *Cantwell's*. This character seems rather calculated to amuse the up-

per gallery, than add to the importance of the drama; and though it will seldom fail of producing laughter, we are apprehensive every judicious observer will readily consider it as too *outré* and farcical for the dignity of true comedy.

QUEEN MAB.

A Pantomime.

This entertainment made its first appearance in the year 1750, under the direction of Mr. *Woodward* the comedian, and met with great encouragement from the public; and since that time has been frequently revived. Many of the scenes are well painted, and some of the tricks of *Harlequin* happily imagined, at the same time that they are executed with great ingenuity: so that if *pantomimes* have any title to praise, this deserves its share. On its revival, an additional scene was introduced, viz. a representation of the

* *Cibber's* NON-JUROR was taken from *Moliere's* TARTUFFE.

Masquerade, given by the King of Denmark to the public at the opera-house, before he left England. This scene is a perfect resemblance of the original, considerably heightened by the introduction of several truly whimsical characters; amongst which, the *Patagonian* man and woman, dressed as an Arcadian shepherd and shepherdess, are no bad specimens of ingenuity.

January 3.

Z I N G I S.

A TRAGEDY.

By Mr. Dow.

This is the first dramatic work this author * has presented to the public. In the prologue, we are told that Mr. Dow was an officer in the service of his country many years where the scenes of this tragedy are laid. On an attentive examination of this piece, we think it hardly met with encouragement equal to its merits. It seemed not to be so generally understood, as some other of our modern pieces; and, therefore, suffered the scourge of criticism. It must, indeed, be acknowledged to have some imperfections; notwithstanding which, it has many pleasing and interesting scenes; the sentiments elevated, the language elegant; and, upon the whole, we think it a valuable addition to the theatrical list.

THE PADLOCK.

A Comic Opera of Two Acts.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

This is taken from the novel of

the Jealous Husband, written by the celebrated Cervantes. The circumstance of the *Padlock* is here introduced very naturally; but we cannot say much in favour of it, when stripped of its ornaments of scenery and music. The music is said to be composed by Mr. Dibdin; but, we have seen an *Italian* piece very similar to this, set to music in *Italy*; and fancy Mr. Dibdin has only altered some of the tunes, the better to adapt them to the measure and accent of the English songs.

January 4.

THE PROVOK'D HUSBAND:
OR, A JOURNEY TO LONDON.

A COMEDY.

By Sir John Vanbrugh, and Mr. C. Cibber.

Notwithstanding this piece is generally known, it may not be unentertaining to the reader, if we here insert a few anecdotes relative to its first appearance on the stage. This comedy was brought out in the year 1727, by Mr. Cibber, whose enemies treated it with great severity the first night. It was originally begun by Sir John Vanbrugh, who did not live to finish it. What he left, was little more than those comic scenes, relative to the *Wronghead* family. In this state Cibber found it, and added the serious part; which, on the first night, was thought to be *Vanbrugh's*, and under this notion highly applauded; while the other part, really *Vanbrugh's*, was cen-

* This gentleman has obliged the world with an elaborate History of Hindostan, lately published in two volumes in quarto; also, a translation of some Oriental Tales, from the Persian of INATULLA, of Delhi, in two volumes in small octavo.



fured and condemned. This obliged *Cibber* to publish his part and *Sir John's* separately; by which his enemies were convinced, that the power of their prejudice against him had led them to applaud *Cibber*, and censure *Vanbrugh*, through a mistake; however, this gave *Cibber* an opportunity of triumphing over his enemies.

In respect to the piece, as it now stands, the frequent repetition of it, and the applause with which it is received, makes it almost dangerous to find fault. The serious part is undoubtedly equal to any thing of the kind in our language; but it has been remarked with great judgment and with great truth, by a very judicious writer *, that "all the scenes that bring the family of the *Wrongheads* into action, being ludicrous and farcical, agree very ill with the principal scenes, displaying severe and bitter expostulations between Lord *Townley* and his lady." This is a very just remark; for, though a variety of action in comedy may be suffered with more propriety than in tragedy; yet, observation convinces us, that it is very difficult to introduce a double plot with any degree of success; because, the under-plot must unavoidably destroy the essence and importance

of the principal one, if it varies greatly from it. *Scene* lies in *London*.

QUEEN MAB.

With the Masquerade Scene.

January 5.

ZINGIS.

And THE PADLOCK.

January 6.

[The] WONDER.

A Comedy.

By Mrs. Centlivre.

This piece made its first appearance in the year 1714. But, as it is now represented, it has undergone some very material alterations by Mr. *Garrick*, who has rendered it a very pleasing performance; towards which his excellencies in the part of *Don Felix*, greatly contribute. The plot is intricate, yet it is conducted with no small degree of art. The principal characters are well drawn, and supported through the whole piece with great judgment; nor, is the language so incorrect and unfinished as in some of her other pieces. The scene lies in *Lisbon*.

THE DEVIL TO PAY:

A Ballad Farce of Two Acts.

By C. Coffey †.

Admitting the impossibility of the *Conjurer's* metamorphosing Lady *Lowerule* to the *Cobler's* wife,

* Home's *Elements of Criticism*.

† Most of the writers who speak of this piece, seem to agree, that it was taken from a farce of three acts, intitled, A Comical Transformation, written by Jevon the player. It has undergone many alterations, but was reduced to the form in which it is now represented, by Mr. Theophilus Cibber. This piece is in one respect memorable. Mrs. Clive, whose abilities cannot yet be forgotten, first discovered, in the part of Nell, some sparks of that comic genius by which she so highly distinguished herself, and which supported her in the estimation of the public, as an actress, for an incredible number of years.

and the *Cobler's* wife to *Lady Love-rule*, (which, by the bye, is against every rule of the drama) this is far from being an unentertaining piece. The music to some of the songs is very fine. It is frequently performed with great applause, and probably may support its success for ages to come.

January 7.

The *MERCHANT* of *VENICE*.

A Tragi-Comedy.

By *Shakespeare*.

We think it is pretty certain, from the concurring testimonies of different writers, that this play was first printed in quarto in the year 1600. Dr. *Johnson* very judiciously observes of this admirable piece, that "the stile is even and easy, with few peculiarities of diction, or anomalies of construction. The comic part raises laughter, and the serious fixes expectation. The probability of either one or the other story cannot be maintained. The union of two actions in one event, is in this drama eminently happy. *Dryden* was much pleased with his own address in connecting the two plots of his *Spanish Friar*; which yet, I believe, the critic will find excelled by this play."

The story is founded on a real fact, which is said to have happened in *Italy*; but, with this difference, that the intended cruelty was really on the side of the Christian, instead of the Jew. But how admirably has *Shakespeare* reversed this matter, and availed

himself of that popular prejudice so prevailing in most Christian communities against those of the Jewish religion. It has lately been discovered, that this fable is taken from a story in the *Pecorone* of *Ser Giovanni Fiorentino*, a novelist, who wrote in the year 1378; and it is imagined, that the choice of the caskets is borrowed from a tale of *Boccace**; but, Dr. *Johnson* seems to be of a different opinion, and thinks, that *Shakespeare* must have had some other novel in view.

It would exceed the limits of this department of our work, were we to descend too minutely to an enumeration of the numberless beauties to be found, even in this play alone of *Shakespeare's*, which would deprive us of taking some notice of those other of his pieces that have been acted during the course of this year; some few, however, must not even here pass unnoticed.

In respect to the character of *Shylock*, it is beyond description admirable, and must be allowed one of the most original and high finished characters the stage ever exhibited. With what art has *Shakespeare* drawn the Jew, in the first scene of the third act, agitated by the different emotions of rage, despair, and joy: rage, on account of his daughter's infidelity; and joy, on the news of *Antonio's* losses. Those who have never noticed this scene between *Tubal* and *Shylock*, have a great pleasure to come. The device of the caskets is very happily intro-

* This tale, and the story mentioned above, are translated into English, and an abridgment of both inserted at the end of the first volume of *Johnson's Shakespeare*, to which we refer our readers.

duced, and affords a pleasing suspense respecting the fate of *Portia*. Nor can we omit noticing the trial scene in the fourth act: this scene throughout, is conducted with great art and management; and were it less excellent than it is, it would ever stand in high estimation, while the remembrance is retained of that admirable speech of *Portia's* on mercy, generally allowed to be equal to any thing on the subject in our own, or any other language. The scene lies partly at *Venice*, and partly at *Belmont*, the seat of *Portia*, on the continent.

QUEEN MAB.

With the Masquerade Scene.

January 9.

The CONSCIOUS LOVERS *.

A Comedy.

By Sir Richard Steele.

This piece is too well known to require any very particular account of it here. The hint of the ground work seems to be taken from the *Andrian* of *Terence*. The folly of duelling, and the pernicious absurdity of what is falsely called the *point of honour*, is set forth in a strong light: a design so noble and praise-worthy, must ever recommend this play to the notice of the sensible and thinking part of mankind. To exhibit this matter in its proper colours, and place it in its true light, so as

to render it justly contemptible, seems to have been the author's principal design; and indeed, Sir *Richard* confesses as much, when he declares, that his whole intention in writing this play, was to introduce the scene between *Bevil* and *Myrtle*, in the fourth act.

The PADLOCK.

January 10.

The HYPOCRITE.

With QUEEN MAB, &c.

January 11.

Z I N G I S.

And THE PADLOCK.

January 12.

KING RICHARD the THIRD†.

An Historical Tragedy.

By Shakespeare.

This play, as originally written by *Shakespeare*, is very different from what is now performed under this title. What is now played, is an alteration of it by *Colley Cibber*, who, from a thorough knowledge of *Shakespeare's* works, has reduced it into a more regular form; but rather, with the author's materials, than any thing of his own. In its original state, it was almost unfit for representation, even at the time it was written; but more so in these days. *Cibber* shewed great judgment in this work, and has greatly improved it, by selecting different

* First performed at Drury-Lane Theatre in the year 1722.

† This tragedy was originally intitled, *The Life and Death of King Richard the Third*; but very improperly, as it comprizes at most, but the last eight years of his time; for it opens with *George Duke of Clarence* being imprisoned in the Tower, which happened in the beginning of the year 1477, and closes with the death of *Richard* at *Bosworth-field*, which battle was fought on the 22d of August, in the year 1485.

passages from almost all *Shakespeare's* historical plays, and judiciously putting them into the mouths of the speakers in this; at the same time, that he has expunged every superfluous and unnecessary incident.

We cannot dismiss this article without observing, that the character of *Richard* in this play, was the first attempt of the celebrated *British Roscius*; who, made his appearance in it at the theatre in *Goodman's Fields*, in the year 1741*: when, like the sun bursting from behind an obscure cloud, he displayed in the very earliest dawn, a more than meridian brightness.

The PADLOCK.

January 13.

The PROVOK'D HUSBAND.

With QUEEN MAB, &c.

January 14.

Z I N G I S.

And THE PADLOCK.

January 16.

Z I N G I S.

And HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.

A Farce of Two Acts.

This little piece made its first appearance at *Drury-Lane Theatre*, in the year 1759, and met with uncommon applause. The design of it seems to aim at two points for the reformation of manners: but, as a particular account of this piece, has been already given by a judicious writer; to which, there is no room for addition or

amendment, we shall beg leave to quote it, as it may not be unentertaining to our readers.—The two points hinted at above, are these; the first, to represent, as in a mirror, to persons in high life, some of their own follies and fopperies, by cloathing their very servants in them, and shewing them to be contemptible and ridiculous even in them. The second, and more principal aim, is to open the eyes of the great, and convince persons of fortune, what impositions, even to the ravage and ruin of their fortunes they are liable to, from the wastefulness and infidelity of their servants, for want of a proper inspection into their domestic affairs.

Notwithstanding the favourable reception of it in *London*, at *Edinburgh* it met with a powerful opposition from the gentlemen of the party-coloured regiment, who raised repeated riots in the play-house whenever it was acted, and even went so far as to threaten the lives of some of the performers. This insolence, however, in some degree brought about the very reformation which it meant to oppose, and in part the intention of the farce, being the occasion of an association immediately entered into by almost all the nobility and gentry of *Scotland*, and publicly subscribed to in the periodical papers, whereby they bound themselves mutually to each other, to put a stop to the absurd and scandalous custom of giving vails, prevalent no where but in these kingdoms. This much, by way of a history of this piece.

* He was then in the 24th year of his age.

January 17.
The HYPOCRITE.
With QUEEN MAB, &c.

January 18.
The COUNTRY GIRL.
A Comedy.

This piece is an alteration of *Wycherley's* comedy of the COUNTRY WIFE; which, for many years, had been justly banished the stage, on account of the looseness in the character of *Horner*, and some other parts, too gross for the present refined taste of a *British* audience. The alterations are judiciously disposed, and the *Augæan* stable sufficiently cleansed; yet we cannot help thinking, that some of those bold strokes of wit to be found in the original, are evaporated, or at least have lost their poignancy. This alteration has been ascribed to Mr. *Garrick*; but with what truth we do not pretend to say.

QUEEN MAB, &c.

January 19.
The CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.
A Comedy.
By *D. Garrick* and *G. Colman, Esqrs.*

This is a very pleasing comedy, in which there are many high strokes of satire and innocent merriment. The plot is judiciously managed, the characters strongly drawn and well discriminated; at the same time that some of the principals have great pretensions to originality. The dialogue is easy, natural, and free from indecency. Some exceptions might be made against a few particulars in the general conduct of the drama; but, when we consider,

that these are so amply compensated, by a display of numberless beauties, the pen of criticism must drop from the hand, and the tongue of reproach be silent.

QUEEN MAB, &c.

January 20.
The MOURNING BRIDE.
A Tragedy.
By *Congreve*.

The only tragedy this author brought upon the stage, and the most indifferent of all his dramatic works; notwithstanding which, it was his favourite piece, and indeed met with equal, if not greater success, than any of his comedies. This will shew, that neither the opinion of an author respecting his own performance, nor of the public in general, is not always to be relied on in cases of this nature. The story is pleasingly told, and very affecting; but there are great faults in the language, which contains too much of the bombast, and too little of nature, to merit any great degree of praise; and yet there are frequent instances of a fine taste in the sentiments. In the first four acts, the unities of place and time are strictly observed; but in the last act there is a capital error; for, in the three first scenes of that act, the place of action is a room of state, which is changed to a prison in the fourth scene: the chain also of the actors is broken, as the persons introduced in the prison are different from those who made their appearance in the room of state. This remarkable interruption of the representation, makes, in effect, two acts instead of one.

WIT'S LAST STAKE.

A Farce of one Act.

By Mr. King, the Comedian.

The hint of this little piece is taken from the French of the celebrated and ingenious *Regnard*; and considering the simplicity of the plot, and how few incidents could be brought within the compass of one act, we do not think it destitute of merit. The three principal characters were finely supported by the *Author*, Mr. *Parsons*, and Miss *Pope*.

January 21.

Z I N G I S.

And THE PADLOCK.

January 23.

C Y M B E L I N E *.

A Tragedy.

By Shakespeare.

This is an excellent play, highly pleasing from a great variety of interesting incidents, and a masterly discrimination of the *dramatis personæ*. As it is now performed, it is better fitted to the *English* stage, by a removal of some of the most glaring absurdities in point of time and place, which the rigid rules of dramatic law do not admit with so much impunity as at the time when *Shakespeare* wrote. Dr. *Johnson* remarks on this play,

that it has "many just sentiments, some natural dialogues, and some pleasant scenes;" but then, says he, "they are obtained at the expence of much incongruity." Notwithstanding this remark is strictly just, we cannot help thinking, that the pleasure it gives in the representation, in a great measure atones for all its imperfections.

The PADLOCK.

January 24

M A C B E T H †.

A Tragedy.

By Shakespeare.

Were we to attempt to criticise this play with any degree of attention, it would greatly exceed the limits of the whole department allotted for our Theatrical Register; we therefore, must here content ourselves with a few particulars.

If we examine this play by the laws of the drama, it will be found to be very imperfect, as every one of them are repeatedly broke in upon; consequently, it is irregular to an extreme; notwithstanding which, it contains an infinity of beauties, both with respect to language, character, passion, and incident; and, if not the best work of this celebrated au-

* The plot of this play, as far as it relates to *Posthumus* and *Imogen*, is taken from *Boccace's Decameron*, day 2d, novel 9th. The rest from the ancient traditions of the British history but there is little historical besides the names.

† The ground work of this piece is founded on the Scottish history, and may be traced in the writings of *Hector Boethius*, *Buchanan*, *Hollingshead*, &c in *Heywood's Hierarchy of Angels*, and in the first book of *Heylin's Cosmography*. But the intire story at large collected from them all, may be seen in a work in three volumes, entitled, *Shakespeare illustrated*, vol. 1.

thor, it is equal to any thing he ever wrote. In respect to the incantations of the witches, he stands unrivalled, being eminently superior even to the *Canidia* of *Horace*. The soliloquies of *Macbeth* are beyond description inimitable; and such as are not to be found in the works of any one, either ancient or modern, when we consider the circumstances by which they are produced. In the year 1745, the present Dr. *Johnson* published a small pamphlet, containing some very critical and judicious remarks on this play, most of which may be found in his edition of *Shakespeare* under this article, to which we refer the reader, and shall here close our own remarks with some general observations on this piece, by the same gentleman.

"This play," says he, "is deservedly celebrated for the propriety of its fictions, the solemnity, grandeur and variety of its action; but it has no nice discriminations of character; the events are too great to admit the influence of particular dispositions, and the course of the action necessarily determines the conduct of the agents. The danger of ambition is well described; and I know not whether it

may not be said in defence of some parts which now seem improbable, that, in *Shakespeare's* time, it was necessary to warm credulity against vain and illusive predictions. The passions are directed to their true end. *Lady Macbeth* is merely detested; and though the courage of *Macbeth* preserves some esteem, yet every reader rejoices at his fall."

WIT'S LAST STAKE.

January 25.

The ALCHEMIST.

A Comedy.

By Ben. Johnson.

This inimitable comedy is not more universally known, than admired; and is generally allowed to be equal in merit to the *Volpone* and *Silent Woman* of the same author. Considering the age in which it was written, the design was noble, viz. to lash the then prevailing passion for Alchemy, and to point out how easy it is for mankind to be imposed on, where some darling folly lends its aid to the imposture*. At this period, it seems to owe much of the applause it receives from the admirable performance of Mr. Gar-

* The editor of GAYTON's Festivous notes on *Don Quixote* compares this comedy to the history of *Don Quixote*, in respect to their similarity of importance to the different countries in which they were written; "I cannot avoid remarking," says he, "that though no author ever excelled the inimitable satire of Cervantes, on the madness and folly of his countrymen, in their absurd passion for knight errantry; yet I think it will be acknowledged, that the celebrated Ben Johnson, with equal merit, and equal success, finely ridiculed and exposed the folly and roguery of the pretenders to Alchemy in his days: nor do I know which is most laughable, *Don Quixote's* encountering the windmill, or *Sir Epicure Mammon's* credulity and pleasurable enjoyment of the lies imposed on him by *Subtle* and *Face*." Vid. the edition in 12mo. page 4.

rick in the part of *Abel Drugger*.

WIT'S LAST STAKE.

January 26.

The MERCHANT of VENICE.
With QUEEN MAB, &c.

January 27.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
A Comedy.

By Ben. Johnson.

This comedy is equal in merit to any of this author's other pieces. The characters are finely imagined, and supported with a great degree of judgment, and the language is masterly and correct, displaying great power of erudition. In the year 1749. Mr. Garrick revived this play, with some alterations, and an additional scene of his own, which was received with the highest applause; part of which, it seemed to derive from the merit of the performers who played the principal characters, but most particularly his own inimitable performance in the part of *Kitty*.

WIT'S LAST STAKE.

January 28.

O T H E L L O.

A Tragedy.

By Shakespeare.

This justly admired play is generally allowed to be the masterpiece of *Shakespeare*, and is the most correct and regular of all his other pieces. The story is taken from *Cinthio's* novels. Scene, for the first act, in *Venice*; during the rest of the play, in *Cyprus*. *Rymer*, the critic, laboured to invalidate the merit of this celebrated piece, but with more envy than success. The best account of this tragedy

that we have seen in few words, in inserted by Dr. *Johnson* in his edition of *Shakespeare's* plays; with which we shall close this article.

"The beauties of this play," says he, "impress themselves so strongly upon the attention of the reader, that they can draw no aid from critical illustration. The fiery openness of *Othello*, magnanimous, artless, and credulous, boundless in his confidence, ardent in his affection, inflexible in his resolution, and obdurate in his revenge; the cool malignity of *Iago*, silent in his resentment, subtle in his designs, and studious at once of his interest and his vengeance; the soft simplicity of *Desdemona*, confident of merit, and conscious of innocence; her artless perseverance in her suit, and her slowness to suspect that she can be suspected, are such proofs of *Shakespeare's* skill in human nature, as, I suppose, it is vain to seek in any modern writer. The gradual progress which *Iago* makes in the Moor's conviction, and the circumstances which he employs to inflame him, are so artfully natural, that, though it will perhaps not be said of him as he says of himself, that he is *a man not easily jealous*; yet we cannot but pity him, when at last we find him perplexed in the extreme.

"There is always danger lest wickedness conjoined with abilities should steal upon esteem, though it misses of approbation; but the character of *Iago* is so conducted, that he is from the first scene to the last hated and despised.

"Even the inferior characters of this play would be very conspicuous

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ous in any other piece, not only for their justness, but their strength. *Cassio* is brave, benevolent, and honest, ruined only by his want of stubbornness to resist an insidious invitation. *Roderigo's* suspicious credulity, and impatient submission to the cheats which he sees practised upon him; and which, by persuasion, he suffers to be repeated, exhibit a strong picture of a weak mind, betrayed by unlawful desires, to a false friend; and the virtue of *Æmilia* is such as we often find, worn loosely, but not cast off; easy to commit small crimes, but quickened and alarmed at atrocious villainies.

"The scenes from the beginning to the end are busy, varied by happy interchanges, and regularly promoting the progression of the story; and the narrative in the end, though it tells but what is known already, yet is necessary to produce the death of *Othello*.

"Had the scene opened in *Cyprus*, and the preceding incidents been occasionally related, there had been little wanting to a drama of the most exact and scrupulous regularity."

QUEEN MAB, &c.

January 30.
NO PLAY.

January 31.
Z I N G I S.
And THE PADLOCK.

February 1.
The 'HYPOCRITE.
And WIT'S LAST STAKE.

February 2.
D O U G L A S.
A Tragedy.

By Mr. John Hume*.

This is far from being a despicable performance, tho' we cannot consider it as a first rate piece. It abounds with pathos; many of the narratives are interesting and affecting, and most of the descriptions are truly poetical. The story is founded on the history of the disputes and contentions between the families of *Douglas* and other of the *Scots* clans †.

The author was a clergyman belonging to the kirk of *Scotland*; and by writing this play, and committing the still greater crime of suffering it to be represented, was persecuted by the bigotted elders of the kirk, whose zeal led them to expel him their communion, and deprive him of his preferments. However, the singularity of the case, and the severity of his unmerited persecution, was soon noticed by several gentlemen of the first distinction, who

* Or Home.

† This piece was first performed at *Edinburgh*, where it met with great success, and was afterwards brought out at the theatre *Royal Drury-Lane*, and was received with great applause. This was the author's first attempt in the dramatic way; but the stage is beholden to him for two other pieces, both tragedies, viz. *Agis*, and *The Siege of Aquileia*. Both these are inferior to *Douglas*, nor did they meet with equal success. The tragedy of the *Fatal Discovery*, brought out this year, is also ascribed to him, of which, see an account in its proper place.

recommended

recommended Mr. *Hume* to his present Majesty, then prince of *Wales*, who graciously repaired the injury he had sustained, by settling a pension on him. Thus, the persecution of his enemies defeated its own purpose.

FORTUNATUS.

A Pantomime.

With a Masquerade Scene.

Fortunatus is another pantomime brought out at this theatre in the year 1754, by Mr. *Woodward*; it contains many good scenes, and will always give pleasure to those who delight in these kind of entertainments. Upon the present occasion, it was revived to be a vehicle for introducing the representation of the King of *Denmark's* masquerade, in the same manner as had been done in *Queen Mab*, in order to give variety.

February 3.

HAMLET PRINCE OF DENMARK.

A Tragedy.

*By Shakespeare.**

The ground work of this celebrated play, is taken from the *Danish* history of *Saxo Grammaticus*.

It is almost unnecessary to say any thing of this piece, as it is so generally known; but, we are unwilling to omit Dr. *Johnson's* character of it, because we do not remember to have met with any re-

marks on this play, so concise, or so judicious.

"If the dramas of *Shakespeare*," says he, "were to be characterized, each by the particular excellence which distinguishes it from the rest, we must allow to the tragedy of *Hamlet* the praise of variety. The incidents are so numerous, that the argument of the play would make a long tale. The scenes are interchangeably diversified with merriment and solemnity; with merriment that includes judicious and instructive observations, and solemnity not strained by poetical violence above the natural sentiments of man. New characters appear from time to time in continual succession, exhibiting various forms of life and particular modes of conversation. The pretended madness of *Hamlet* causes much mirth, the mournful distraction of *Ophelia* fills the heart with tenderness, and every personage produces the effect intended, from the apparition that in the first act chills the blood with horror, to the fop in the last, that exposes affectation to just contempt.

"The conduct is perhaps not wholly secure against objections. The action is indeed for the most part in continual progression, but there are some scenes which neither forward nor retard it. Of the feigned madness of *Hamlet*, there appears no adequate cause, for he

* It is recorded of this great poet, that although his knowledge and observation of nature rendered him the most accurate painter of the human mind in his writings, yet so different are the talents requisite for acting from those required, even for dramatic writing, that the part of the ghost in this play (no very considerable character) was almost the only one, in which he was able to make any figure as a performer

does nothing which he might not have done with the reputation of sanity. He plays the madman most when he treats *Ophelia* with so much rudeness, which seems to be useless and wanton cruelty.

"*Hamlet* is, through the whole play, rather an instrument than an agent. After he has, by the stratagem of the play, convicted the King, he makes no attempt to punish him, and his death is at last effected by an incident, which *Hamlet* has no part in producing.

"The catastrophe is not very happily produced; the exchange of weapons is rather an expedient of necessity than a stroke of art. A scheme might easily have been formed, to kill *Hamlet* with the dagger and *Laertes* with the bowl.

"The poet is accused of having shewn little regard to poetical justice, and may be charged with equal neglect of poetical probability. The apparition left the regions of the dead to little purpose; the revenge which he demands is not obtained but by the death of him that was required to take it; and the gratification which would arise from the destruction of an usurper and a murderer, is abated by the untimely death of *Ophelia*, the young, the beautiful, the harmless, and the pious." Scene *Elfinbor*.

DAMON AND PHILLIDA.

A Ballad Opera.

By C. Cibber.

This little piece is an alteration of this author's comedy of *Love in a Riddle*, by himself; the reason

of his reducing it to this form, was owing to its having met with a very unfavourable reception, partly from the influence of party prejudice, for the piece was not destitute of merit; he therefore selected this little ballad-pastoral from that play; and, as it was not known to be *Cibber's* when it first came out, it met with great applause. Originally the music to the songs was taken from old popular ballads; but as now performed, it has undergone considerable alterations, and the addition of some new songs and choruses, by Mr. *Dibdin*, of which we cannot say much in their praise; not but we allow him possessed of some ingenuity; at the same time, that we wish he would take some pains to correct that ingenuity, by acquiring some knowledge of the principles of composition, and not destroy the merit of his melodies, (which are sometimes pleasing) by setting instrumental accompaniments, that destroy the effect intended to be produced: and which, we are sorry to say, are generally contrary to all the rules of harmonic composition.

February 4.

The SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

A Comedy.

By Mrs. Griffiths*.

The ground-work of this comedy is taken from the *Eugenie* of M. *Beaumarchais*, a French writer of distinguished reputation; but as to the characters, they are evidently borrowed from the *Clarissa*

* This lady has obliged the world with several other dramatic performances, viz. *Amana*, the Platonic Wife, and the Double Mistake, but neither of these met with the success of the above play.

Harlowe

Harlowe of *Richardson*, the *Tom Jones* of *Fielding*, and several of our best comedies, which there is no occasion for us to enumerate, as the copies are too much like the originals to want names prefixed to them. Notwithstanding this, many of the incidents are very interesting, and many of the scenes calculated to afford pleasure; the language is easy and natural, though not remarkably elegant, but, where necessary, forcible, and strongly pointed; the sentiments in general, are very just, though they have little novelty to boast of; and though, in many instances the piece is faulty, and inaccurately managed, yet the moral it inculcates is excellent, viz a detestation for gallantry; and to convince the men, that nothing is more infamous, or more dangerous, than perfidy to a woman of honour.

When the plan was first adopted, the author found great difficulty in adapting it to the *British* stage, for though *M. Beaumarchais* had laid the scheme in *England*, the manners were *Spanish*; the undertaking would, for this reason, have been wholly relinquished, if *Mr. Garrick*, who had suggested the design, had not assisted in the execution of it. It met with good success, and, upon the whole, merited it. The prologue was spoke by *Mr. King*, and the epilogue by *Mrs. Clive*. For these see our class of poetry.

THE DEVIL TO PAY.

February 6.

THE SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

And WIT'S LAST STATE.

February 7.

THE SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

And THE LYAR.

A Comedy of three Acts.

By *Mr. Foote*.

This piece exposes, with great humour, the vice of lying; the ground-work of which seems to have been taken from *Sir Richard Steele's* comedy of the *Lying Lovers*.

February 8

No PLAY.

February 9.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.

With FORTUNATUS, &c.

February 10.

No PLAY.

February 11.

THE SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

And WIT'S LAST STAKE.

February 13.

THE SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

And MISS IN HER TEENS.

A Farce of Two Acts.

By *Mr. Garrick*.

This is a piece too generally known to need an explanation. It contains some good strokes of wit and satire; and though some of the characters may be drawn beyond the bounds of nature and probability, yet perhaps, a more correct piece would fail of giving the pleasure this has done for a great number of years, and still continues to do whenever played; not, that we think any character here is carried beyond what may be allowed of in a farce.

February

February 14.

The **SCHOOL FOR RAKES.**
With **THE DEUCE IS IN HIM.**
A Farce of Two Acts.

By Mr. Colman

The design of this piece is a satire on Platonic love, which is here touched very delicately, and conducted with great art; so that it bids fairer for effecting the intended purpose, than if it had been managed with more violence and poignancy. Some of the scenes are serious, but some others are truly laughable; and we think the character of the *Apothecary* has great pretensions to originality. Few farces on the *English* stage are conducted with equal judgment, ingenuity, and correctness.

February 15.

No P L A Y.

February 16.

The **SCHOOL FOR RAKES.**
And **THE PADLOCK.**

February 17.

No P L A Y.

February 18.

The **SCHOOL FOR RAKES.**
And **THE PADLOCK.**

February 20.

The **SCHOOL FOR RAKES.**
And **THE PADLOCK.**

February 21.

The **SCHOOL FOR RAKES.**
With **FORTUNATUS, &c.**

February 22.

No P L A Y.

February 23.

The **FATAL DISCOVERY.**
A Tragedy.

By Mr. Hume.

This piece is so very defective

in most of the essential points which form a regular and complete drama, that we can hardly believe it the work of the author of *Douglas*. The conduct of the whole piece is evidently absurd; the characters are not well drawn, and some are even inconsistent with themselves. The names of the whole *dramatis personæ* are so uncouth and unpoetical, that the mention of them very frequently destroys the pathos and dignity of the action. The diction is sometimes pleasing, and there are a few instances of poetical beauty. In short, the whole is little more than an amplification of one of *Ossian's* poems, reduced to dialogue. The scene lies in one of the *Western Islands*.

DAMON AND PHILLIDA.

February 24.

No P L A Y.

February 25.

The **FATAL DISCOVERY.**

And a Peep behind the Curtain.

A Farce of Two Acts.

By Mr. Garrick.

This piece, like all those written by this author, contains much pleasantry, with some good strokes of satire, judiciously pointed at authors and players. In the second act, a burletta called *Orpheus*, is introduced by way of rehearsal, and is admirably calculated to produce laughter; to which Mr. King's droll performance in the part of the *Poet*, contributes not a little. The prologue, written by the author of the piece, and spoke by Mr. King, affords much entertainment.

N

February

February 27.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.
And THE LYAR.

February 28.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.
And THE PADLOCK.

March 1.

No P L A Y.

March 2.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.
And THE PADLOCK.

March 3.

No P L A Y.

March 4.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.
And THE PADLOCK.

March 6.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.
And THE PADLOCK.

March 7.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.
And THE PADLOCK.

March 8.

No P L A Y.

March 9.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.
And THE PADLOCK.

March 10.

No P L A Y.

March 11.

The ROYAL SLAVE.

This is little more than an alteration of *Southern's Oronoko*; in which, we think, there are no improvements beyond what have already been made to this play by *Dr. Hawkesworth*.

A PEEP BEHIND THE CURTAIN.

March 13.

Z E N O B I A.
A Tragedy,

By Mr. Murphy.

This is an excellent play, and met with great success; a success it merited. Some few exceptions might be made in respect to the general conduct of it; but, as its merits more than overbalance its defects, we pass them over in silence. The foundation of the story may be seen in *Tacitus*; and it is more than probable, that the author has been beholden to *Crebillon's* admirable piece on this subject; this seems indeed to be hinted at in the prologue.

DAPHNE AND AMINTOR.

A Musical Entertainment.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

This piece is little more than an alteration of the *Oracle*, which was originally translated from the *French*; so that in this new dress it makes its third appearance on the *English* stage. The addition of music, and some new scenes, however, rendered it pleasing. The character of *Daphne* is simple and pleasing; not but it is an apparent imitation of *Shakespeare's Miranda* in the *Tempest*.

March 14.

FALSE DELICACY.

A Comedy,

By Mr. Kelly.

This play met with great success on its first appearance on the stage; but it has little pretensions to the title of *comedy*; and may, with more propriety, be stiled a *dramatic novel*; however, the situations render it extremely pleasing, and in general, are brought about with sufficient probability; yet, the sentiments are to managed

as to destroy their merit with their use. Upon the whole, this piece is more a satire on *true* delicacy than *false*, and indeed, there does not appear to be one instance of false-delicacy in the dramatic action, though it pre-supposes one; the refusal of a man of merit by an amiable widow who loves him, upon a silly notion, that it was indelicate to marry a second time. This is the first dramatic piece this author has produced, or, however, made public, and therefore it claims some indulgence from criticism.

HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

This *pantomime* was brought out in the year 1759; the prologue called it a *Christmas-pye*. The plan of it, is a supposed invasion made by *Harlequin* and his associates upon the frontiers and domain of *Shakespeare*. The action is not carried on as usual in entertainments of this sort, in dumb shew, but the characters are made to speak. The catastrophe is the defeat of *Harlequin* and the restoration of King *Shakespeare*. We know not to whom to ascribe the merit of the machinery; but the dialogue, from the originality and singularity of its humour, is undoubtedly the work of Mr. *Garrick's* pen. The character of *Dolly Snip*, the *taylor's* daughter, and indeed, the rest of his family are drawn with no small degree of ingenuity. The part of *Dolly* seems to have been written for Miss *Pope*, in which she has shown great comic powers; and in which it is probable, she will never be equalled.

Since the first appearance of this entertainment, it has been revived several times, and the last

time, with great alterations, and the addition of some new scenes.

March 15.

No P L A Y.

March 16.

The T E M P E S T.
A Comedy.

By *Shakespeare*.

This play is the noblest effort of that sublime and amazing imagination, peculiar to *Shakespeare*, which soars above the bounds of nature, without forsaking sense; or, more properly, carries nature along with him beyond her established limits. To explain what is here meant, we need only instance the characters of *Caliban* and *Ariel* in this play. As to the first of these, nothing can surely be more *outré*, at the same time that nothing can be more perfectly natural. As to the second, it is impossible to conceive any thing more truly original, or a greater contrast to the former. Most of the characters are well drawn; among which, that of *Miranda* is admirable; her simplicity and natural sensations under the circumstances in which she is placed, are such instances of genius, as none but *Shakespeare* could have produced in any degree of perfection. The *scene* at first, is on board a vessel in a storm at sea, through the rest of the play, in a desert island.

The P A D L O C K.

March 17.

No P L A Y.

March 18.

The FAIR PENITENT*.

A Tragedy.

By Mr. Rowe.

This is an excellent play, and highly deserving the applause it receives whenever performed; the plot is built on the *Fatal Dowry* of *Massinger*, and is simple and domestic; the poetry elegant, and the sentiments noble and moral. We have here a strong proof, that the distresses of private life are at least as well calculated for the scene, as the fate of kings and empires; and that the former seem to have the advantage, as they come more home to the bosoms of the spectators.

A PEEP BEHIND THE CURTAIN.

NOTE. From Monday March the 20th, to Saturday March the 25th, no PLAY.

March 27,

The TEMPEST.

And THE PADLOCK.

March 28.

The HYPOCRITE.

With NO WIT LIKE A WOMAN'S.

A Farce of Two Acts.

This piece is little more than a translation of the *George Dandin* of *Moliere*, with a few alterations calculated to give it the air of novelty, in which, however, the action is rendered more perplexed and redundant than in the original.

March 29.

The JEALOUS WIFE.

A Comedy.

By Mr. Colman.

This is one of the best comedies the stage has produced for many years. The plan is well laid, the business interesting, and the characters admirably drawn. The ground-work is evidently taken from the *Tom Jones* of *Fielding*, at the period of *Sophia Western's* taking refuge at the house of *Lady Bellafton*; but the characters borrowed from that work belong principally to the under plot, which is very happily connected with the other, viz. the reformation of the *Jealous Wife*, and the restoration of domestic peace and happiness between Mr. and Mrs. *Oakley*.

HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

March 30.

The MERCHANT OF VENICE.

And THE PADLOCK.

March 31.

The MAID OF THE MILL.

A Comic Opera.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

This piece has afforded great entertainment to the public; it contains some scenes of high merriment, and some of the principal characters are well drawn. The ground-work is taken from the *Pamela* of *Richardson*. The music of the songs is compiled from the works of different masters; and, if we may judge from the poetry,

* Some have remarked, and not without reason, that this play is falsely named; because, Calista can scarcely deserve the title of Penitent, as all her anguish, even to the last, seems more to proceed from the sense of shame than guilt.

which

which in general is execrable, the words were adapted to the tunes, and not the tunes to the words.

NO WIT LIKE A WOMAN'S.

April 1.

The CONSCIOUS LOVERS,
And A Peep behind the Curtain.

April 3.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE.

A Comic Opera.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

This piece has very little original merit, the plan, and indeed many of the scenes, with the dialogue verbatim, being taken from the *Village Opera*, written many years ago by Mr. Charles Johnson. This was the first attempt at comic operas for many years, and met with such success, as enabled it to run almost as many nights as that celebrated performance, the *Beggar's Opera*. Upon the whole, as this piece is manufactured for the stage (for we can call it little else) it is capable of affording much entertainment; and is, by far, the best of all those kind of pieces since brought on the stage by this author. The music to the songs is compiled from the works of different masters, except an air or two composed on purpose for this piece by Dr. Arne.

The C I T I Z E N.

A Comedy of Three Acts.

By Mr. Murphy.

The characters of this piece are rather *outré*, nor is its merit equal to any other of this author's works; notwithstanding which, it is frequently performed, and meets with great applause: but, what contributed in a great measure to its success at first, was the inimitable performance of the late Miss Elliot

in the character of *Maria*; which character is manifestly taken from that of *Angelique*, in the *Fausse Agnes of Destouches*.

April 4.

The COUNTESS OF SALISBURY.
A Tragedy.

By Hall Harston, Esq.

This piece made its first appearance on the *Irish* stage. The circumstances of the principal persons of the drama are extremely interesting and affecting, and many of the sentiments are highly pleasing; but the language is frequently very defective. The story is taken from the romance of *Longsword Earl of Salisbury*.

A PEEP BEHIND THE CURTAIN.

April 5.

The MAID OF THE MILL.
And HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

April 6.

The SCHOOL FOR RAKES.
And QUEEN MAB.

April 7.

C Y M B E L I N E.
With FLORIZEL AND PERDITA.
A Farce of Two Acts.

This little piece is taken from the *Winter's Tale* of *Shakespeare*, particularly that part which relates to the loves of *Florizel* and *Perdita*.

April 8.

The PROVOK'D HUSBAND.
And HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

April 10.

The O R P H A N.
A Tragedy.

By Otway.

This well known and justly admired play, is the work of a poet whose

whose writings did honour to the age in which he lived; and whose fate, though probably the consequence of his own bad conduct, will ever be lamented. The plot is founded on the history of *Brandon*, in a novel called the *English Adventures*. The circumstances are deeply affecting, and the catastrophe truly distressful; the language is highly poetical and sentimental; the fable is familiar and domestic, and there is amazing energy in the expression.

The G H O S T.

A Farce.

This piece seemed only calculated to serve the player for whose benefit it was performed, and had no merit to recommend it but the novelty of the title; however, we may venture to affirm, that this *apparition* will not appear very often.

April 11.

The PLAIN DEALER.

A Comedy.

Altered from *Wycherly* by Mr. *Bickersstaff*.

Wycherly's comedy of this title, of which the piece before us is only an alteration, had singular merit; but being written in an age, when licentiousness was openly encouraged by persons of the first rank, the King not excepted, it had justly been laid aside for many years, being rather too indelicate for the refined taste of these times. In its present state, it is stripped of its obscenity, and altered in some other respects very judiciously. Several of the characters in the original were borrowed from

Moliere's Misanthrope, and *Scarron's City Romance*.

The PADLOCK.

April 12.

The MAID OF THE MILL.

And THE HERMIT.

A Pantomime.

This pantomime is the most indifferent, in every respect, of any of the entertainments of this kind brought out at this theatre.

April 13.

The FATAL DISCOVERY.

And THE PADLOCK.

April 14.

The CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.

And THE DEUCE IS IN HIM.

April 15.

The ROYAL SLAVE.

With HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.

April 17.

D O U G L A S.

— And THE PADLOCK.

April 18.

The WAY TO KEEP HIM.

A Comedy.

By Mr. *Murphy*.

This piece has singular merit, and is a valuable addition to the list of modern comedies. We think it would be doing a kind of injustice to the author, were we to pass it over slightly; and yet, it is almost impossible for us to succeed with any degree of success (in giving an account of it) after that sensible and intelligent one given by a late writer*; for which rea-

* The author of the Companion to the Play-house.

son, we shall beg leave to insert it in this place.

" This piece made its first appearance as a comedy of three acts, being a subsequent entertainment to the *Desart Island* of the same author. The intention of it is to point out to the married part of the female sex, how much unhappiness they frequently create to themselves, by neglecting after marriage, to make use of the same arts, the same assiduity to please, the same elegance in the decoration of their persons, and the same complacency and blandishments in their temper and behaviour, to preserve the affections of the husband, as they had before it put in practice to awaken the passions of the lover. This doctrine is here enforced by the example of a gentleman of amiable qualities, and a natural liveliness of turn; yet, according to his own declarations, strongly inclinable to domestic happiness; driven, by this mistaken conduct in his wife from his home, and a valuable woman the mistress of that home, into gallantries with other women, and a total indifference to his wife. The design has great merit, and the execution of it is pleasingly conducted. The principal characters are well drawn; some of the incidents sufficiently surprising and interesting, and the denouement attended with circumstances which render it truly comic. And although the language may not abound with the studied wit of *Congreve* or *Wycherly*, yet it is a natural and easy dialogue, and properly adapted to that domestic life which it is intended to represent. In the year 1761, the author enlarged it

into a regular comedy of five acts, by the addition of two principal characters, viz. Sir *Bashful Constant* and his *Lady*. The former of which, is a gentleman who, though passionately fond of his wife, yet, from a fear of being laughed at by the gay world for uxoriousness, is perpetually assuming the tyrant, and treating her, at least before company, with great unkindness. The manner in which the author has interwoven this character with the rest of the plot, is productive of scenes which certainly add greatly to the *vis comica* of the piece; but how far it is, on the whole, improved by that addition, is a point of controversy among the critics, which I shall not here take upon myself to determine. Some of them have charged the author with having drawn a character entirely out of nature; at the same time, that he has been taxed by others with intending it for a person really existing. From both these accusations, however, he will surely stand acquitted, when I have made one remark, which is, that however Mr. *Murphy* may have touched up and heightened it, either from his own imagination, or from real life, the ground-work of the character itself, and of several of the incidents, is to be found in M. de la *Chaussée's* character of *D'Urval*, in his comedy called *Le Préjugé Alémanique*.

CATHARINE AND PETRUCHIO.

A Farce of Three Acts.

By Mr. Garrick.

This is only an alteration of *Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew*; but the alterations have rendered this piece much more perfect

and regular than it was originally.

April 19.

The FAIR PENITENT.

With a Peep behind the Curtain.

April 20.

The SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

And THE PADLOCK.

April 21.

H A M L E T.

And THE HERMIT.

April 22.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE.

And THE OLD MAID.

A Comedy of Two Acts.

By Mr. Murphy.

This piece has great merit, and is one of the best of our modern entertainments. The character of the *Old Maid* is inimitable, and the perplexity produced by *Clerimont's* mistake, is naturally and happily supported, as is the conduct of the whole piece.

April 24.

The W O N D E R.

And LETHE.

A Dramatic Satire.

By Mr. Garrick.

This piece first appeared at the theatre in *Goodman's-Fields*, under the title of *Æsop in the Shades*; but was considerably altered, and revived at *Drury-Lane Theatre* in the year 1748, by the author, who since that time has added a new character to it, viz. *Lord Chalkstone*. It is a piece of singular merit, abounding with keen and poignant satire on the reigning follies of the age. The music to the songs was set by Dr. *Boyce*, who has shewn both taste and

judgment in the execution of them.

April 25.

The JEALOUS WIFE.

With HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

April 26.

FALSE DELICACY.

And THE HERMIT.

April 27.

The MAID OF THE MILL.

And FORTUNATUS.

April 28.

The WIDOW'D WIFE.

A Comedy.

By Mr. Kenrick.

The ground-work of this piece is taken from a novel of Mr. *Kelly's*, called *The Magdalen*, or *Memoirs of Louisa Mildmay*. Mr. *Kenrick* has for many years been trying to establish himself as a critic in the estimation of men of letters, in which, we may venture to say, he has not succeeded. However, he has frequently attempted not only to criticize, but to censure the works of various authors of established reputation; but in the play before us, he has given the world a convincing proof, that however envy, interest, or private pique, may have led him arrogantly to censure the works of other writers, he is but a very indifferent writer himself, particularly in the dramatic way.

The PADLOCK.

April 29.

The ALCHEMYST.

And HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

May

May 1.
ROMEO AND JULIET.
 A Tragedy.

By *Shakespeare*.

This celebrated play is so generally known, that it is almost useless for us to take up the reader's time with an account of it; only, that it is necessary to say a word or two respecting the form in which it is now represented. — Several alterations have been made in this piece: the most material, and indeed the only good one, was done by Mr. *Garrick*, who, from his great knowledge in dramatic propriety, and the effects it is capable of producing, has rendered this inimitable tragedy more uniform, and worked up the catastrophe to a greater degree of distress than it held in the original; as *Juliet's* awaking before *Romeo's* death, and the transports of the latter on seeing her revive, overcoming even the very remembrance of the late act of desperation he had committed, give scope for that sudden transition from rapture to despair, which makes the recollection that he *must* die infinitely more affecting; and the distress of *Juliet*, as well as his own, much deeper than it is possible to be in *Shakespeare's* play, where she does not awake till after the poison has taken its full effect in the death of *Romeo*. On the play's being revived with these alterations, the funeral procession of *Juliet* was first introduced. The story may be found in *Bandello's* novels, which is translated in *Painter's Palace of*

Pleasure; and also in the *History of Verona*, by *Girolamo Corte*. The scene in the beginning of the fifth act is in *Mantua*, during the rest of the play in and near *Verona*. The music to the procession as performed at this theatre, was composed by Dr. *Boyce*.

The REGISTER OFFICE.

A Farce of Two Acts.

By Mr. *Joseph Reed* *.

This is a very entertaining performance, intended to expose the pernicious consequences that may, and probably do frequently arise from offices of intelligence, or, as they are call'd *Register Offices*, where the management of them happens to be lodged in the hands of wicked and designing men. This design is surely a laudable one, as the stage ought certainly to be made the vehicle to convey to the public ear and eye, not only the representation of general vice and folly, but also the knowledge of any particular evil or abuse which may occur to a few persons indeed, but those perhaps either too unconsequential or too indolent to attempt a redress of it, and which cannot therefore, by any means so readily as by this, be brought forth to open day light, and in consequence to public redress. The author revived it lately with some additions.

May 2.

The TEMPEST.
 And THE PADLOCK.

* Mr. Reed is the author of *Dido*, a tragedy, acted only a few nights for some of the players benefits, and also of the comic opera of *Tom Jones*.

May

May 3.

The MERCHANT OF VENICE.
And The REGISTER OFFICE.

May 4.

The SCHOOL FOR RAKES.
With QUEEN MAB, &c.

May 5.

The TEMPEST.
And The HERMIT.

May 6.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

A Comedy.

By Shakespeare.

Part of the plot of this pleasing play is taken from *Chaucer's* legend of *Gamelyn*, in the *Cook's Tale*. It abounds with many strokes of genuine wit and humour, and contains many beautiful and delicate sentiments; at the same time that it is supported by a great variety of incidents and very entertaining characters. *Dr. Johnson* observes, that the fable of this play is wild and pleasing; the comic dialogue is very sprightly, with less mixture of low buffoonery than in some other of his plays; and the graver part, says he, is elegant and harmonious. The scene lies first near *Oliver's* house, and afterwards partly at the court of one of the provincial dukes of *France*, and partly in the forest of *Arden*.

The PADLOCK.

May 8.

Z A R A.

A Tragedy.

By Mr. Aaron Hill.

This piece is taken from the *Zaire* of *Voltaire*, but the translator has made it to much his own, that it is difficult for us to say which

of the two is deserving of the most praise.

The REGISTER OFFICE.

May 9.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE.
And HIGH LIFE BELOW STIRS.

May 10.

The COUNTRY GIRL.
And The LYAR.

May 11.

The SUSPICIOUS HUSBAND.

A Comedy.

By Dr. Hoadly.

This comedy has met with such a run of uninterrupted success from the time of its first appearance, that it will probably be thought envious in us to find fault with it: we are very willing to allow it all the merit it possesses, yet we must declare, that it has many faults, *viz.* want of design, character, and language, which perhaps is not observed by the inattentive reader or spectator, on account of the busy activity of the plot, which undoubtedly will in a great measure draw off the attention. Upon the whole, it is rather pleasing than striking; and yet there are few modern comedies equal to it, or that are capable of affording that satisfactory pleasure to an audience in general, as the representation of this piece has been constantly found to do.

The LOTTERY.

A Ballad Farce.

By Mr. Henry Fielding.

This piece is no bad satire on the roguery of stock-jobbers, or more properly dealers in lottery tickets; as also on the ridiculous expectations of the purchasers of those tickets, who all expect to have

have the capital prizes. This piece was lately revived with the addition of a new scene of *Guild-hall*.

May 12.

The HYPOCRITE.
And HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

May 13.

No P L A Y.

May 15.

The CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.
And THE VIRGIN UNMASK'D.

A Ballad Farce.

By Mr. Henry Fielding.

This is a very indifferent performance, though it is frequently played with success; it contains some strokes that are laughable, but every character in the whole piece is *outré* to the highest degree. It has a double title, viz. *The Old Man taught Wisdom*.

May 16.

KING RICHARD THE THIRD.
And THE LOTTERY.

May 17.

The BEGGAR'S OPERA.

By Mr. Gay.

Notwithstanding the great success of this piece on its appearance, and the frequent repetitions of it since, (such probably as no other dramatic piece could ever boast) yet it has been censured by the critics, and indeed with some degree of justice, if we examine it by the laws of the drama; but this piece does not naturally come within their jurisdiction, at least not absolutely so. The hero, it

is true, is a highwayman placed in a pleasing point of view, and is rewarded instead of being punished; but we ought to remember, that the grand aim of the author was not to exhibit a perfect or regular drama, but a satire on the reigning passion of persons in high rank for *Italian* operas, to the neglect of the *British* theatre, so capable of affording them a much more rational entertainment.

HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.

May 18.

The STRATAGEM.

A Comedy.

By Farquhar.

This piece has intrinsic merit, such as will ever prejudice an audience in its favour. The plan is well designed, the incidents pleasing, and there is a good discrimination of character; but there are some things in it we wish to see altered by some judicious hand, as they border too much on indelicacy.

The DEVIL TO PAY.

May 19.

The MERCHANT OF VENICE.

And THE DEUCE IS IN HIM.

May 20.

The SUSPICIOUS HUSBAND.

And HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.

May 22.

The LONDON MERCHANT*.

A Tragedy.

By Mr. Lillo.

Though the characters of this piece are all taken from those in

* Or the History of George Barnwell.

the middle station of life, yet it contains a distress which renders it much more affecting than many plays which represent events that are thought of much higher importance, and in which the fate of kings and empires is at the point of being decided by a single battle. The story is very interesting, and digested with great ingenuity, and the catastrophe is just, as well as truly affecting. It is written in prose, yet it is admirably adapted to the subject, and sufficiently exalted to express the sentiments of the persons of the drama. The author was very happy in the choice of his subject, in which his conduct and management is highly meritorious; nor can there be a finer lesson offered to the attention of youth than what this play affords.

CATHARINE and PETRUCHIO.

May 23.

The COUNTRY GIRL.

And THE PADLOCK.

N. B. This was the last play performed this season. The house opened again,

September 16.

The CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.
And HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.

September 18.

No P L A Y.

September 19.

H A M L E T.

And WIT'S LAST STAKE.

September 20.

No P L A Y.

September 21.

The H Y P O C R I T E.

With HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

September 22.

No P L A Y.

September 23.

C Y M B E L I N E.

And THE PADLOCK.

September 25.

No P L A Y.

September 26.

The SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

And QUEEN MAB;

With the Masquerade.

September 27.

No P L A Y.

September 28.

The R E V E N G E.

A Tragedy.

By Dr. Young.

This excellent tragedy is one of the most correct and high finished pieces in the *English* language. The similarity of the plot of this play to that of the *Othello* of *Shakespeare*, has given the critics an opportunity of charging the author with being guilty of plagiarism; but this charge seems to be unjust, as we may hereafter show in some essays on dramatic writing, which we intend to introduce in the course of this work, but which must be omitted at present, on account of the number and length of many of our articles in this volume.

The PADLOCK.

September 29.

No P L A Y.

September

September 30.

The COUNTRY GIRL.

And AN ODE*.

Upon dedicating a Building and erecting a Statue to *Shakespeare*.

October 2.

ROMEO AND JULIET.

With HARLEQUIN'S INVASION.

October 3.

ALL IN THE WRONG.

A Comedy.

By Mr. Murphy.

This is a very entertaining comedy, the plot and conduct of which are worked up with singular merit. It abounds with a variety of incidents and characters (probably too many) by which means, however, the mind is engaged, and consequently amused. The design aims to bring together and represent at one view the various effects of the passion of jealousy in domestic life, acting on different dispositions and different tempers, and under the different circumstances of husband, wife, lover, and mistress; which is done with a great degree of ingenuity and judgment.

The JUBILEE ODE.

October 4.

C Y M O N.

A Dramatic Romance.

This piece has been ascribed to Mr. Garrick, who has never, that we know of, denied its being the offspring of his invention. It seems professedly calculated to

speak to the eye as well as the ear; and may, upon the whole, be considered as the sportive vagary of a free-born Muse, disdaining to be restrained by any laws but those of her own creating, being resolved to ramble without a guide in the delightful paths of unagic liberty, utterly uncontrollable to any of the powers of usurpation. The author seems to have endeavoured at a representation of native, genuine simplicity, in which he has succeeded with great success, for the strokes of nature in *Cymon* and *Sylvia* are happily imagined. The easy cheerfulness of *Linco* is irresistibly pleasing, infinitely more so than the drolleries of *Dorus*, who is not without his merits. The moral is a very good one, viz. that there is no magic like virtue; but it has been remarked, that had not *Merlin* appeared in some measure to act from a spirit of revenge respecting *Urganda*, this maxim would have been enforced more powerfully, because revenge is a passion unallied to pure, genuine virtue. The plan altogether (admitting the propriety of sorcery and enchantment) is sufficiently regular, and the underplot judiciously interwoven with the principal design. The sentiments are generally well adapted to the characters; the diction professedly unadorned, but frequently beautiful from its simplicity; the songs happily written and well accommodated to the various characters and situations of the persons

* This Ode, with notes, may be found among our Poetical Pieces; and the particulars which occasioned its being written and set to music, may be seen in our account of the Stratford Jubilee, among the Miscellanies; so that it is unnecessary for us to enlarge on this subject here.

of the drama; add to all this, the music, which is frequently pleasing (though now and then rather too trifling) and the amazing decorations of the scenery, *Cymon* stands foremost in the list of modern theatrical entertainments calculated to surprise and please.

The GHOST.

October 5.

The MERCHANT of VENICE.
AND THE PADLOCK.

October 6.

The STRATAGEM.
AND THE JUBILEE ODE.

October 7.

KING LEAR.

A Tragedy.

By Shakespeare.

The play now represented at this house under this title, is an alteration of *Shakespeare's King Lear* by Mr. Tate; who, among other things, has interwoven an under-plot of the loves of *Edgar* and *Cordelia* with the main business of the play, intirely omitted the character of the fool, and considerably altered the catastrophe, by making *Lear* and *Cordelia* survive with the prospect of being happy. Dr. *Johnson* observes, that *Shakespeare* in the original, "suffered the virtue of *Cordelia* to perish in a just cause, contrary to the natural ideas of justice, to the hope of the reader, and what is yet more strange, to the faith of chronicles. Yet this conduct is justified by the *Spectator*, who blames *Tate* for giving *Cordelia* success and happiness, in his alteration, and declares, that in his opinion *the tragedy has lost half its beauty*. A play in which the

wicked prosper, and the virtuous miscarry, may doubtless be good, because it is a just representation of the common events of human life; but since all reasonable beings naturally love justice, I cannot easily be persuaded, that the observation of justice makes a play the worse, or, that if other excellencies are equal, the audience will not always rise better pleased from the final triumph of persecuted virtue. In the present case the public has decided. *Cordelia*, from the time of *Tate*, has always retired with victory and felicity." There is, perhaps, no play of *Shakespeare's* which keeps the attention so strongly fixed as the piece before us, or which so much agitates our passions and interests our curiosity: the artful revolutions of distinct interests, the striking opposition of contrary characters, the sudden changes of fortune, and the quick succession of events, fill the mind with a perpetual tumult of indignation, pity, and hope. There is no scene which does not contribute to the aggravation of the distress or conduct of the action, and scarce a line which does not conduce to the progress of the scene. So powerful is the current of the poet's imagination, that the mind which once ventures within it is hurried irresistibly along. The scene lies in *Britain*, and the story, except the episode of *Edmund*, which is derived from *Sidney*, is taken originally from *Geoffrey of Monmouth*, whom *Holingshead* generally copied; but perhaps immediately from an old historical ballad, in which the affair of *Lear's* distribution of his kingdom, and the ingratitude of his two daughters

ters *Goneril* and *Regan* is related; it contains the rudiments of this play, though none of its amplifications.

Mr. *Colman*, one of the patentees of Covent-Garden Theatre, has lately undertaken an alteration of this play from *Tate*; which alteration is however only represented at that theatre. He has judiciously availed himself of some of the errors of *Tate*, but having heightened the distress of the catastrophe, we doubt whether humanity will condescend to give him her voice in opposition to *Tate*.

QUEEN MAB, &c.

October 9.

The TEMPEST.
And THE PADLOCK.

October 10.

The PROVOK'D WIFE.
A Comedy.
By *Vanbrugh*.

To say that this play is destitute of merit, would be doing great injustice to the memory of the author, and paying but a bad compliment to the understandings of many learned critics. It undoubtedly has many very fine scenes in it, not to mention the character of *Sir John Brute*; a character very naturally drawn, and very highly finished; yet the moral of this play is of a very pernicious tendency, and many of the scenes are not only indelicate, but licentious. How far the inimitable performance of Mr. *Garrick* in the character of *Sir John Brute* may authorise or justify the frequent representation of this

piece, is a point we will not attempt to determine

The REGISTER OFFICE.

October 11.

The BEGGAR'S OPERA.
With QUEEN MAB, &c.

October 12.

The CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.
And THE JUBILEE ODE.

October 13.

AS YOU LIKE IT.
And THE PADLOCK.

October 15.

The SCHOOL FOR RAKES.
And THE JUBILEE.

Amongst many things intended for the entertainment of the public at the *Stratford Jubilee**, the Pageant (consisting of a procession of allegorical beings, with the most distinguished characters of *Shakespeare's* plays, properly dressed) was one of the principal; but the exhibition of this splendid procession was prevented by the badness of the weather. As the public met with a disappointment in this particular, Mr. *Garrick*, ever ready to exercise his ingenuity and contribute to its amusement, has not only presented the town with a display of this Pageant, but has endeavoured to give a general idea of the most remarkable occurrences at *Stratford* during the time of the festival: to this end, he found it necessary to form the whole into a regular plan, in order to render it fit for representation on the stage; in which he has shown great invention and taste; and how well

* See an account of the *Stratford Jubilee* in our article of *Miscellanies*.
this

this undertaking has been received and encouraged by the public need not now be told.

This entertainment is introduced with a prologue spoken by Mr. King, in the character of a waiter; but as any account of this piece must necessarily fall short of the merit of the original, we refer our readers to the prologue, which may be found among our *Poetical Pieces*. The characters of the speaking part are,

Ralph, a Country Clown, Mr. King.
Irishman, Mr. Moody.
Ballad Singers, { Mr. Vernon.
 { Mr. Dibdin.
Serenaders, Mr. Bannister, &c.
Goody Benson, Mrs. Bradshaw.
Murgery Jarvis, Mrs. Love.
Country Girls, { Miss Radley.
 { Mrs. Baddeley.

Waiters, Gentlemen, Showmen,
 Pedlars, Cook, Ostlers, &c. &c.

SCENE, *Stratford-upon-Avon*.

The scene opens in the house of *Goody Benson*, who is discovered sleeping in her great chair; *Murgery Jarvis* calls and wakes her, and a conversation ensues, in which the fears of the poor country people, who at *Stratford* apprehended some dreadful consequences would follow this Jubilee, is represented with admirable humour, and which is greatly heightened by the entering of *Ralph*, who is terrified almost to death, yet, in part, ashamed to own his apprehensions. He seems to think it a popish and a gunpowder plot set on foot by the *Jews* and *Papishes*, because *Shakespeare's* monument in the church had been lately beautified, by which, in his opinion, they had made *Shakespeare*

look like a *Popish Saint*; and lastly, as a great quantity of cannon and gunpowder had been brought into the town, he concludes it was intended to blow up the whole town. During this conversation the cannon fire, which alarms them greatly; however, *Ralph* at last has courage enough left to go and see what is the matter.

The next scene exhibits a street, in which stands a post-chaise; some serenaders enter in masquerade dresses, and compliment the ladies. This disturbs an Irish gentleman, who, popping his head out of the chaise, tells them, "It was very hard they would not let people sleep in their beds; that there was no lodging to be got, which reduced him to the necessity of taking the first floor of the post-chaise, and that though he had paid half a crown for the apartment, they had unconscionably forced a bed-fellow in with him; adding, that he had not been able to get a wink of sleep till they waked him." They apologize for the interruption, and at his request let him out of the chaise. A conversation ensues respecting the Jubilee, in which there is great humour, and many pleasing strokes of satire.

The next is some ballad-singers, who, followed by a crowd, sing Mr. Garrick's song of the *Warwickshire Lad*; at the end of which, the Irishman declares them all thieves, but concludes, that the greatest of all thieves is a *Jubilee thief*.

The scene then changes to an inn-yard, where a great bustle ensues. The hurry and confusion of the waiters, and the distress of the company for want of attendance, is admirably conducted; but

but an enumeration of every particular would far exceed the limits of our plan. After the business of the inn-yard is over, which finishes with the song and chorus to *Shakespear's mulberry tree*—*Behold this fair goblet, &c.* The pageant succeeds, and we take the liberty to acquaint our readers, that the following is the only authentic list of the particulars hitherto published.

Sixteen attendants (dancers) with tambours.

Two attendants bearing the mottos of the theatres, viz. *Veluti in speculum*, and *Totus mundus agit histrionem*. The first belongs to Covent Garden theatre, the latter to that of Drury-Lane.

Drums and fifes.

THE COMEDIES OF SHAKESPEARE.

1. *As You Like It*. Touchstone and Audrey, Orlando and Rosalind, Jaques, Adam, and Foresters.

2. *The Tempest*. Prospero, Ferdinand and Miranda; Ariel, Caliban, and the drunken sailors. The ship, as shattered in a storm, sails down the stage.

3. *The Merchant of Venice*. Bassanio and Portia; the caskets on a bier richly ornamented; Shylock the Jew, with the knife and bond, &c.

4. *Much Ado about Nothing*. Benedick and Beatrice, Pedro, Leonato, and Masqueraders.

5. *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Duke of Milan, Valentine, Proteus, Speed, Launce, Julia, &c.

6. *Twelfth Night*. Sir Andrew Aguecheek, Sir Toby Belch, Malvolio, Olivia, and attendants.

7. *Midsummer's Night's Dream*. Bottom the weaver, with an ass's

head, fairies Oberon and Titania, the fairy King and Queen, drawn in an elegant carriage; Robin Good-Fellow, Pease-blossom, &c.

8. *Merry Wives of Windsor*. Justice Shallow, Sir Hugh Evans, Dr. Caius, Jack Rugby, the Host of the Garter, Ancient Pistol on horseback, Slender, Sir John Falstaff, Ford, Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Page, Bardolph, &c.

COMEDY, in a magnificent car, drawn by satyrs, and attended by the different characters of the Ancient Comedy.

PROCESSION of Chorus Singers, preceding the figure of *Shakespeare*, from the monument in Westminster Abbey, with emblematical ornaments.

KETTLE-DRUMMER in a car, with eight trumpeters.

THE TRAGEDIES OF SHAKESPEARE.

1. *King Richard the Third*. Richard giving directions to Tyrrel respecting the murder of the two young princes in the Tower; who follow, led by the Queen Dowager their mother, guards, &c.

2. *Cymbeline*. Bellarius, Guiderius, Arviragus, Imogen, Posthumus, &c.

3. *Hamlet*. The Ghost beckoning to Hamlet, who is held by his mother; Ophelia in the mad scene, the grave-diggers, &c.

4. *Othello*. The Duke conversing with Brabantio, Othello and Desdemona, Iago, Roderigo, &c.

5. *Romeo and Juliet*. The Nurse and Peter, the Friar, Romeo and Juliet, servants, &c.

6. *King Henry the Fifth*. King Henry, Captain Fluellen, Pistol, &c.

O

7. *King,*

7. *King Lear*. Edgar in the storm, Lear frantic, supported by Kent and Cordelia, heralds and attendants.

8. *King Henry the Eighth*. Lord Chamberlain, the King conversing with Cardinal Wolsey, Anna Bullen, Archbishop of Canterbury, Yeomen of the Guards, &c.

9. *Macbeth*. Macbeth and his Lady in the dagger scene, Hecate and the witches, with the burning cauldron.

10. *Julius Cæsar*. Licitors, Tribunes, &c. Cæsar and the Soothsayer, followed by Brutus and Cassius.

11. *Antony and Cleopatra*. Egyptian slaves, Antony and Cleopatra, black eunuchs.

12. *Apollo*, with his lyre.

TRAGEDY in a triumphal car, surrounded by Calliope, Clio, Erato, Euterpe, Polyhymnia, Terpsichore and Urania, guards, attendants, &c.

While the last scene is preparing, two young women enter and discourse about the Jubilee. The one declares herself ignorant of *Shakespeare* or his works, but the other values herself upon her knowledge of him, and her politeness, having seen some of his plays acted at Birmingham and Coventry. They sing some airs alluding to *Shakespeare*, and retire to the rotunda to see the end of the Jubilee. Just as they go out, the Irishman enters again, and pursues them, but meeting with a cook's boy, he enquires of him when the procession of the Pageant is to be seen? The boy's eagerness to go to the rotunda scarcely suffers him to speak; however, at last, laughing all the while, he tells him, that the *Pagans* are all

gone by. This is a great mortification to the honest Hibernian, who reflects what a ridiculous figure he shall make when he returns to his own country, "after having travelled three hundred miles to see the Jubilee, and to be fast asleep when he should be awake; to be awake when he should be fast asleep; to get nothing to *ate*, and pay double for that too."

The last scene is highly magnificent and showy. The side scenes transparently representing the capital characters of *Shakespeare's* plays; the whole terminating in a Niche, in which is the statue of *Shakespeare*, supported by *Melpomene* and *Thalia*, who crown the immortal bard with laurels. The characters in the Pageant are ranged on each side; those of the Tragedies on the left, and those of the Comedies on the right, agreeable to the situation of the Muses. A roundelay, a dance and a chorus concludes the whole.

Though the speaking part of this entertainment is intended entirely as a vehicle for exhibiting the Pageant, and performing the songs designed for the Jubilee at *Stratford*; yet, it is nevertheless, inconceivably pleasing in the representation. It must therefore be considered as an interlude only, (and not as a regular drama) calculated to unite the different parts of a very agreeable and magnificent representation of the original Jubilee. Upon the whole, this entertainment is admirably designed to give pleasure, and to delight the eye by the splendor of show. The view of *Stratford* church and the ringing of the bells had a happy effect. In short, when we consider the ingenuity of bringing

bringing such an exhibition to perfection, in which so many persons are employed, and which must have been attended with an inconceivable expence, we think it reflects great honour on Mr. *Garrick*; and though the attempt has been crowned with uncommon success from the public, it is highly deserving of it.

October 16.

The HYPOCRITE.
And THE JUBILEE.

October 17.

The PLAIN DEALER.
And THE JUBILEE.

October 18.

FALSE DELICACY.
And THE JUBILEE.

October 19.

ALL IN THE WRONG.
And THE JUBILEE.

October 20.

The REVENGE.
And THE JUBILEE.

October 21.

A New Way to Pay Old Debts
A Comedy.
By *Massinger*.

This is a very pleasing comedy, and seems to be equal in merit to any other of this author's works.

The plot is good, and the conduct of it managed with great ingenuity; the characters are well drawn, and the language is not only true dramatical, but bold and nervous. This play was revived by Mr. *Garrick* some years ago, as also at this time, but neither the first nor second time did it meet with any great success.

The JUBILEE.

October 23.

The FIRST PART * of
KING HENRY the FOURTH.

By *Shakespeare*.

This and the sequel, or second part, may justly be considered as one play, and only broken into parts by the necessity of the exhibition, being together too long for one. Both these plays are inimitable, and undoubtedly perfect masterpieces in this kind of writing, the tragedy and comedy parts of them being so finely connected with each other, as to render the whole regular and complete, and yet contrasted with such boldness and propriety, as to make the various beauties of each, the more perfectly conspicuous. But we cannot dismiss this article, without presenting our readers with the general character of these two pieces, as given by Dr. *Johnson* in his edition of *Shakespeare's* works. "None of *Shakespeare's* plays

* The transactions contained in this historical drama, are comprized within the period of about ten months; for the action commences with the news brought of *Hotspur* having defeated the Scots under *Archibald Earl Douglas* at *Holmedon* (or *Halidown-Hill*) which battle was fought on *Holyrood-day*, (the 14th of September) 1402; and it closes with the defeat and death of *Hotspur* at *Shrewsbury*, which engagement happened on Saturday the 21st of July, (the eve of *St. Mary Magdalen*) in the year 1403.

(says he) are more read than the first and second parts of *Henry the Fourth*. Perhaps no author has ever in two plays afforded so much delight. The great events are interesting, for the fate of kingdoms depend upon them; the slighter occurrences are diverting, and, except one or two, sufficiently probable, the incidents are multiplied with wonderful fertility of invention, and the characters diversified with the utmost nicety of discernment, and the profoundest skill in the nature of man.

"The prince, who is the hero both of the comic and tragic part, is a young man of great abilities and violent passions, whose sentiments are right, though his actions are wrong; whose virtues are obscured by negligence, and whose understanding is dissipated by levity. In his idle hours he is rather loose than wicked, and when the occasion forces out his latent qualities, he is great without effort, and brave without tumult. The trifler is roused into a hero, and the hero again into a trifler. This character is great, original and just.

"*Piercy* is a rugged soldier, choleric and quarrelsome, and has only the soldier's virtues, generosity and courage.

"But *Falstaff* unimitated, unimitable *Falstaff*, how shall I describe thee? Thou compound of sense and vice; of sense which may be admired, but not esteemed; of vice which may be despised, but hardly detested. *Falstaff* is a character loaded with faults, and with those faults which naturally produce contempt. He is a thief and a glutton, a coward and a boaster, always ready to cheat the weak and prey upon the poor;

to terrify the timorous and insult the defenceless. At once obsequious and malignant, he satirises in their absence those whom he lives by flattering. He is familiar with the prince only as an agent of vice, but of this familiarity he is so proud as not only to be supercilious and haughty with common men, but to think his interest of importance to the duke of *Lancaster*. Yet the man thus corrupt, thus despicable, makes himself necessary to the prince that despises him, by the most pleasing of all qualities, perpetual gaiety, by an unfailing power of exciting laughter, which is the more freely indulged, as his wit is not of the splendid or ambitious kind, but consists in easy escapes and sallies of levity, which make sport but raise no envy. It must be observed that he is stained with no enormous or sanguinary crimes, so that his licentiousness is not so offensive but that it may be borne for his mirth.

"The moral to be drawn from this representation is, that no man is more dangerous than he that with a will to corrupt, hath the power to please; and that neither wit nor honesty ought to think themselves safe with such a companion, when they see *Henry* seduced by *Falstaff*."

The J U B I L E E.

October 24.

A New Way to Pay Old Debts.

And THE JUBILEE.

October 25.

ALL IN THE WRONG.

And THE JUBILEE.

October

October 26.
The **MERCHANT OF VENICE.**
And **THE JUBILEE.**

October 27.
A New Way to Pay Old Debts.
And **THE JUBILEE.**

October 28.
H A M L E T.
And **THE JUBILEE.**

October 30.
The **MOURNING BRIDE.**
And **THE JUBILEE.**

October 31.
TANCRED AND SIGISMUNDA.
A Tragedy.
By *Thomson.*

The story on which the ground-work of this play is founded, is too generally known to require an explanation. This is the best of *Thomson's* dramatic works, yet it seems better calculated to please in the closet than by representation at the theatre, there being a want of variety of incidents to surprise and preserve the attention of an audience; add to this, that though the language in general is poetical, the dialogue is too declamatory and sentimental, which consequently renders the whole tedious and heavy.

The JUBILEE.

November 1.
The **SCHOOL FOR LOVERS.**
A Comedy.

By *William Whitehead, Esq.*

This piece has very little pretensions to the title of *comedy*, but might with more propriety be called a dramatic *novel*. The hint of this piece is taken from *M. de Fontenelle*, which the au-

thor acknowledges in an advertisement prefixed to it. The principal design seems to aim at delicacy, sentiment, and the consequence of instruction in the conduct of a generous and well grounded passion, in which the poet has succeeded with a great degree of eminence. The principal characters are well drawn, perfectly amiable and worthy imitation, the sentiments moral and delicate, and the language chaste and accurate. It is the first attempt of this author in the walks of comedy.

The JUBILEE.

November 2.
The **PROVOK'D HUSBAND.**
And **THE JUBILEE.**

November 3.
The **SCHOOL FOR RAKES.**
And **THE JUBILEE.**

November 4.
T A M E R L A N E.
A Tragedy.
By *Rowe.*

This is a good play, written in compliment to King William III. whose character Mr. *Rowe* intended to display in that of *Tamerlane*; for this reason, it is generally played on the 4th of November, which was the birth-day of that monarch, and of late years on the 5th also, the anniversary of his first landing in this island.

The JUBILEE.

November 6.
T A M E R L A N E.
And **THE JUBILEE.**

November 7.
The **CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.**
And **THE JUBILEE ODE.**

November 8.

The CONSCIOUS LOVERS.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 9.

The LONDON MERCHANT.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 10.

The PLAIN DEALER.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 11.

The FAIR PENITENT.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 13.

KING RICHARD THE THIRD.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 14.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.
A Comedy.

By *Shakespeare*.

This is a pleasing comedy, and contains many beautiful scenes, at the same time that it is not free from incongruities, and therefore may be censured by those scrupulous critics, who examine works of this nature by the rigid laws of the drama, and take more pleasure in observing the imperfections of a piece than the beauties it may contain. Here are many scenes of high merriment, particularly those between *Benedict* and *Beatrice*, and the contrivance of making them fall in love with each other, after having both equally forsworn that passion, is conducted with great ingenuity; in short, whatever faults it may have, the whole is admirably calculated to please. The scene lies at *Messina* in *Sicily*, and the story is taken from *Ariosto*, *Orl. Fur. B. 5*.

The PADLOCK.

November 15.

The WAY TO KEEP HIM.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 16.

The W O N D E R.
And THE PADLOCK.

November 17.

C Y M B E L I N E.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 18.

O T H E L L O.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 20.

The T E M P E S T.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 21.

The E A R I. OF ESSEX.
A Tragedy.

By *Mr. Henry Brooke*.

The story on which this play is founded is almost universally known to every Englishman at least. We have three plays under this title, and all founded on the same subject. The first by *Banks*, well known as a dramatic writer; the second by *Mr. Henry Jones*, which, in some respects, was an improvement on *Banks*, though in others not so; and the play now before us by *Mr. Brooke*, who has varied his conduct from the other two, principally to give it the air of novelty; not but we think he has improved the conduct of the main design with great ingenuity. His characters are not badly drawn, and his language is bold and nervous; though it must be confessed, in this last particular, he seems at times to pay too little regard to the correctness of measure and harmony of numbers; however

ever, upon the whole, Mr. Brooke's Earl of Essex justly deserves the preference, and seems most likely to support public esteem.

The JUBILEE.

November 22.

The ALCHEMIST.
And THE PADLOCK.

November 23.

AMPHITRYON.

A Comedy.

This is an alteration of Dryden's *Amphitryon*, or *The Two Socias*, by Dr. Hawkeſworth. Dryden's play is founded on the two *Amphitryons* of Plautus and Moliere, the music to which was originally composed by the celebrated Mr. Henry Purcell. In the piece before us, Moliere's dialogue-prologue between Mercury and Night is introduced in the first scene. As it now stands, it is very judiciously cleansed of many passages rather too loose and indelicate for the chaste ears of a virtuous audience.

The JUBILEE.

November 24.

The COUNTESS OF SALISBURY.
And the JUBILEE.

November 25.

AMPHITRYON.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 27.

AMPHITRYON.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 28.

The ROYAL SLAVE.
And THE JUBILEE.

November 29.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
And THE PADLOCK.

November 30.

AMPHITRYON.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 1.

DOUGLAS.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 2.

The MERCHANT OF VENICE.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 4.

The JEALOUS WIFE.
And THE JUBILEE ODE.

December 5.

The ROYAL SLAVE.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 6.

The SUSPICIOUS HUSBAND.
And HOB IN THE WELL.

A Ballad Farce.

This little piece is an alteration of *Dogget's Country Wake*, by Mr. Cibber, and is a very indifferent entertainment. The music to the songs consists chiefly of old ballad airs, generally known.

December 7.

AMPHITRYON.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 8.

The CONFEDERACY.
A Comedy.

By Vanbrugh.

This is one of the best pieces of this witty and ingenious author. It contains a variety of business which cannot fail to engage the attention of an audience, and the characters are very naturally drawn. The plot of the two wives against their husbands is contrived with great ingenuity. Upon the whole,

though there is some improbability in the affair of *Dick and Brads*, yet it is one of the most pleasing comedies now exhibited.

The JUBILEE.

December 9.

The WONDER.
And THE PADLOCK.

December 11.

The HYPOCRITE.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 12.

CYMBELINE.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 13.

JANE SHORE.
A Tragedy.
By Rowe.

The story on which this excellent tragedy is founded is universally known; and we believe we may venture to pronounce it the best of all this author's dramatic pieces. The scene lies in London.

The LYAR.

December 14.

ALL IN THE WRONG.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 15.

The ROYAL SLAVE.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 16.

The MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.
A Comedy.

By Shakespeare.

Queen Elizabeth was so well pleased with the admirable character of *Falstaff* in the two parts of *Henry IV.* that she commanded *Shakespeare* to continue it for one

play more, and to shew him in love. To this command (according to Mr. Rowe's account) we owe the *Merry Wives of Windsor*, which is generally allowed to be the master piece of this great poet in the comic way. Some have pretended to assert, that the author finished it in a fortnight; but this is imagined to allude to the first imperfect sketch, for it never can be thought, that a piece so exact and regularly formed, exhibiting so extensive a group of perfect and highly finished characters, could be planned and executed in so masterly a manner in so short a time. We have here an undeniable proof, that notwithstanding *Shakespeare* frequently did break through the bounds and regularity prescribed by the laws of the drama; he was capable of polishing and regulating the plots and conduct of his pieces to a great degree of perfection and exactness.

The JUBILEE.

December 18.

The PROVOK'D HUSBAND.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 19.

The WAY TO KEEP HIM.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 20.

O T H E L L O.
And THE REGISTER OFFICE.

December 21.

AMPHITRYON.
And THE JUBILEE.

December 22.

The CONSCIOUS LOVERS.
And THE LYAR.

December

THEATRICAL REGISTER.

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December 23.

LOVE FOR LOVE.

A Comedy.

By Congreve.

This is an excellent comedy, did it not contain some scenes too loose and indelicate for the chaste ear of virtue, a circumstance greatly to be regretted, since the wit is genuine, the characters natural, and the painting highly finished. This author studied correctness and regularity to a great degree in most of his plays; but in this, he is frequently faulty in one particular, *viz.* suspending the action to make way for a display of wit. This piece is in one instance remarkable, the new theatre in *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields* was opened with it, where it met with uncommon success.

The JUBILEE.

December 25.

No PLAY.

December 26.

The LONDON MERCHANT.

And THE JUBILEE.

December 27.

The TEMPEST.

And THE JUBILEE.

December 28.

CYMBELINE.

And THE JUBILEE.

December 29.

The MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

And THE JUBILEE.

December 30.

The PROVOK'D WIFE.

And DAPHNE AND AMINTOR.



COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE*.

January 2.

HAMLET.

And APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

A Pantomime.

THIS entertainment has nearly as much merit as the rest of those exhibitions, in which the carpenters and painters seem to be the principal persons deserving commendation. It was revived at this time with an additional scene, *viz.* A representation of the King of Denmark's Masquerade, in which was displayed great ingenuity, splendor, and expence of show.

January 3.

CYRUS.

A Tragedy.

By Mr. Hoole.

This interesting tragedy is taken from *Il Ciro Riconosciuto*, an Italian Opera by *Metastasio*. As it now stands, it is highly entertaining in the representation; and from the dignity of the thoughts, and graces of diction, it seems likely to afford infinite pleasure in the closet, even when stripped of its theatrical ornaments; in short, it, wants very little to render it a perfectly regular tragedy. The

* An account of such plays and entertainments as are not criticised in this list, may be found in the Drury-lane list.

scene

scene lies in a wood on the confines
of *Media*.

APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 4.

SHE WOU'D AND SHE WOU'D NOT
A Comedy.

By C. Cibber.

This is a very entertaining comedy, busy, and sprightly, though not equal to several of *Cibber's* other pieces. The scene lies at *Madrid*, and the plot is taken from the *Trapanner trapann'd*.

APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 5.

The MISER.

A Comedy.

By Fielding.

This comedy is taken from the *Avare* of *Moliere*. It has been constantly acted with good success, but falls far short of the original in point of merit.

APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 6.

ROMEO AND JULIET.

And THE OXONIAN IN TOWN.

A Comedy of Two Acts.

By Mr. Colman.

This is a very pleasing little piece, sprightly, laughable and full of business; containing also some strokes of well timed satire.

January 7.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE.

And APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 9.

GEORGE BARNWELL*.

And APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 10.

The BEGGAR'S OPERA.

And APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 11.

KING LEAR.

And APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 12.

The STRATAGEM.

And APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 13.

CYRUS.

And APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 14.

TOM JONES.

A Comic Opera.

By Mr. Reed†.

The title of this piece makes it almost unnecessary to say that it is taken from a celebrated novel of the same name, written by the late ingenious and facetious Mr. *Henry Fielding*. Mr. *Reed* has deviated from the novel very considerably both with respect to incidents and character; he has very judiciously divested *Jones* of his libertinism, and has legitimated him, so that he has produced a stronger interest and a more perfect catastrophe. *Parson Supple* is changed to a country squire, in order to avoid any reflections on the clergy; *Western* and Mrs. *Honour* are stripped of their provin-

* This is the London Merchant, of which see an account in the *Druery-Lane list*. It has a double title, viz. The London Merchant, or The History of George Barnwell.

† Author of the Register Office, and the Tragedy of Dido.

cial dialect; and indeed the humour of the former is well preserved, without either the indelicacy or Jacobitism of the original. Upon the whole, the piece is not destitute of merit, though, at the same time, we think the author has not made that important use of many things in the novel which might have been expected. The contrast of character between *Western* and his sister is well supported, though they are both ignorant, conceited, and petulant, only they have different modes of expressing the same foibles. The poetry of the songs is very indifferently expressed, but that must in some measure be excused, when we consider, that the songs were frequently written to be adapted to tunes composed to other words prior to the date of this opera.

The COUNTRY WIFE.

This is *Wycherley's Country Wife* reduced to a farce, by which the play is spoiled; at the same time, that the piece as it now stands, will afford very little entertainment.

January 16.

TOM JONES.

And the Miller of Mansfield.

By Mr. Doddsley.

This little piece met with great success on its first appearance, and justly deserved it. It cannot fail of affording high entertainment to such as are pleased with natural simplicity, good sentiment, and innocent merriment.

January 17.

TOM JONES. And THE MUSICAL LADY. A Farce.

By Mr. Colman.

The design of this pleasing little piece, is to ridicule the folly of the fair-sex of *Great Britain*, in affecting a passion for music and a taste in composition, without having the least knowledge of the science, and thereby suffering themselves to be dupes to fashionable absurdity, and an easy prey to the designing and interested views of foreign fiddlers and Italian impostors, to the neglect of real and superior merit in our *English* performers; by which, they are not only seduced into the utmost extravagance, but become the sport and ridicule of the very harpies they so idolize and encourage. Upon the whole, the laudable design of this piece, and the masterly manner in which it is executed, incline us to think it equal, if not superior to any of the dramatic pieces of this writer.

January 18.

TOM JONES. And THE ENGLISHMAN in PARIS. A Comedy of Two Acts.

By Mr. Foote.

This piece is too universally known to require any very particular account of it. The general design of it is to expose the absurdity of our young gentlemen travelling abroad to learn the vices and follies of other countries, before they have acquired either judgment or taste to relish the valuable (and probably superior) excellencies of their own country. The design is undoubtedly very laudable,

laudable, but as a drama it is very indifferently executed.

January 19.

TOM JONES.

And Harlequin Doctor Faustus.

A Pantomime.

This is not the original pantomime brought out by the late Mr. Rich under this title, but an almost intire new one, projected by Mr. Woodward the comedian, who has only preserved two scenes of the old one. This entertainment is very showy, and there is not only great invention in the machinery, but a great display of taste and ingenuity in the paintings and other decorations.

January 20.

TOM JONES.

CATHARINE AND PLTRUCHIO.

January 21.

KING LEAR.

See our account of Mr. Colman's alteration of this play under this article in the Drury-Lane list.

APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 23.

TOM JONES.

And THE MILLER OF MANSFIELD

January 24

TOM JONES.

And THE MUSICAL LADY.

January 25.

The INCONSTANT.

A Comedy.

By Farquhar.

The ground-work of this piece is taken from the *Wild-Goose Chase* of Beaumont and Fletcher; but the circumstance in the last act of

young *Mirable's* being in danger of his life at the *Courtezan's* house surrounded by her bravoës, and his delivety by the carefulness of his mistress *Oriana* disguised as his page, is said to have had its foundation from an affair of the like nature, in which the author was himself concerned during the time of his being abroad in the army. The scene is laid at Paris. In respect to the piece itself, it is lively and entertaining, and contains many interesting scenes, at the same time that some of the incidents do not appear to be founded on probability.

APOLLO AND DAPHNE, &c.

January 26.

The MAID OF THE MILL.

With APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 27.

JANE SHORE.

With APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 28.

The ENGLISH MERCHANT.

A Comedy.

By Mr. Colman.

The main design of this piece is taken from the *French*; the plot is simple and domestic, containing many interesting scenes; the sentiments are noble and generous, and the dialogue is easy and natural; yet, we think some of the characters are not well drawn, and upon the whole, that it is greatly inferior to the rest of this author's pieces.

APOLLO AND DAPHNE.

January 30.

No PLAY.

January

January 31.

C Y R U S.

And THE ROYAL CHACE ;

Or *Harlequin Skeleton*.

A Pantomime.

This is another pantomime brought out many years ago by the late Mr. Rich. It has generally been received with great applause by the lovers of this species of entertainment, and was revived at this time to introduce the new scene of the King of *Denmark's* masquerade, as had been done in that of *Apollo and Daphne*.

February 1.

T O M J O N E S.

And the Intriguing Chambermaid.

A Ballad Farce.

By Mr. Henry Fielding.

This piece has been generally received with applause, though we cannot say much in favour of it, the plot being rather improbable, as well as the characters *outré*. It is taken almost intirely from the *Diffpateur*.

February 2.

T O M J O N E S.

And THE UPHOLSTERER *.

A Farce of Two Acts.

By Mr. Murphy.

This piece is generally known, and from its first appearance has always been received with the highest applause. It abounds with many scenes truly laughable, and contains much wit and good satire. Its principal aim is to ridicule and expose the absurdity of that insatiable appetite for news, and that prevailing folly so peculiar to the good people of *England*,

of giving way to a ridiculous anxiety for the concerns of the public and the transactions of the political world, even to the neglect and ruin of their own domestic affairs and private family interest; and that in persons intirely ignorant, not only of the proceedings of a ministry, but even of any of those springs by which the wheels of government ought to be actuated. The instruments of this ridicule are a *bankrupt upholsterer*, and a *bedlamite barber*, who not only endeavour to settle the affairs of *Great Britain*, but of all *Europe*. The design is truly laudable, and on this account the piece must be allowed to have great merit, for many of the characters are somewhat *outré*, and touched up in the most glaring colours; but surely this will be excused, when we consider how necessary it is to point at such follies as are here satirized in the strongest manner.

February 3.

THE ROMAN FATHER.

A Tragedy.

By William Whitehead, Esq.

This is an excellent tragedy, and may justly be ranked amongst the best of the dramatic pieces of this age. This piece is founded on that celebrated incident of the earliest period in the Roman history, the combat between the *Horatii* and the *Curiatii*. But our author is not the first who has written on this subject, in the dramatic way; for it had, many years before the date of this play, been formed into a tragedy by the

* This has a double title, viz. *The Upholsterer, or What News?*
celebrated

celebrated *Corneille*, who in his *Les Horaces*, has managed this subject with great art; nor can any thing be more admirable than the manner in which the action is diversified; the original is not to be found amongst the ancients, nor could any modern ever copy it. In respect to the piece before us, though we think the *English* writer falls short of the merit of the *French* one in the general conduct of the piece, yet, in many other instances he is greatly superior, *viz.* less declamatory in the speeches, and consequently less tedious, and in general abounding with more poetical beauties in the language.

HARLEQUIN SKELETON*.

February 4.

The W O N D E R.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 6.

The ENGLISH MERCHANT.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 7.

C Y R U S.

And MIDAS.

A Burletta.

By Mr. O'Hara.

This mock opera had infinite merit, and appeared at first in three acts; but in that form, many of the scenes were rather tedious; on which account, it did not meet with the success it deserved. As

it is now played, it consists only of two acts, being stripped of those trifling and unnecessary particulars which occasioned a dislike to it at first. It is now rendered one of the most pleasing performances we have upon the stage.

February 8.

No P L A Y.

February 9.

T O M J O N E S.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 10.

No P L A Y †.

February 11.

C Y R U S.

And MIDAS.

February 13.

The PROVOK'D HUSBAND.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 14.

T O M J O N E S.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 15.

No P L A Y.

February 16.

H A M L E T.
And MIDAS.

February 17.

No P L A Y.

* We have already taken notice of this pantomime, *viz.* The Royal Chase, or Harlequin Skeleton.

† On this day began the Oratorios for the Lent season, of which we shall give a distinct account at the end of this list.

February 18.
The SISTERS.
A Comedy.

By Mrs. Lenox*.

The audience expressed so great a dislike to this piece on the first exhibition of it, that it was with great difficulty the whole of it was performed, nor was it suffered to be given out for a second representation. From a perusal of the piece, we think it deserved a better fate, as many dramatic performances of less merit have been received with better success, and are now frequently played. It contains a variety of incidents, and an intricacy of plot; the language is elegant, and the sentiments are not only just, but refined, except that the daughter of an Earl calls her mother *Mamma*, and that *Courtney* advises Lord *Clairville* to marry a woman he cannot love, to oblige his father. In character and humour this play is certainly deficient, the principal parties are mere passions personified; we have love, honour, generosity, and resentment, without the striking peculiarities in their expression, which constitute character, and distinguish one man of honour, and one lover from others.

DAMON AND PHILLIDA.

This is the old piece without any of the alterations or new music as performed at the other theatre, of which we have already given our readers an account.

February 20.
LOVE IN A VILLAGE.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 21.
ZARA.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 22.
No PLAY.

February 23.
CYRUS.
And MIDAS.

February 24.
No PLAY.

February 25.
EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

February 27.
HAMLET.
And THE APPRENTICE.
A Farce of Two Acts.

By Mr. Murphy.

This piece met with considerable applause on its first appearance and is still frequently played with success; a success it justly merits. The design of it is to expose and ridicule the absurd and pernicious passion so prevalent amongst the youth of this metropolis, who, without either genius or judgment, waste their time and neglect their business in fruitless attempts to become actors. This laudable design has, in a great measure, produced the effect intended, for though it has not entirely extirpated this folly, it has rendered it contemptible, and thereby checked the progress of it.

* This lady is well known as the writer of *Shakespeare illustrated*, the *Female Quixote*, and many other performances.

February 28.

TOM JONES.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

March 1.

No PLAY.

March 2.

C Y R U S.
And MIDAS.

March 3.

NO PLAY.

March 4.

The BUSY BODY..

A Comedy.

By Centlivre.

This is a very entertaining play, and not only met with great success on its first appearance on the stage, but still continues to be a favourite with the public. Part of it, particularly the dumb scene between Sir George Airy and Miranda, is taken from Ben Johnson's comedy of *The Devil's an Ass*. It is sprightly and full of business, but the language is very indifferent, nor is the plot altogether probable. The character of *Marplot*, is well drawn, and contributes in a great measure to the support of the piece.

HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

March 6.

M A C B E T H.

And THE UPHOLSTERER.

March 7.

The MAID OF THE MILL.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

March 8.

No PLAY.

March 9.

C Y R U S.
And MIDAS.

March 10.

No PLAY.

March 11.

C Y M B E L I N E.
And THE OXONIAN IN TOWN.

March 13.

O R E S T E S.

A Tragedy.

By the Rev. Mr. Franklin *.

This is only a translation of the *Orestes* of Voltaire, who himself took the plan from the *Orestes* of Euripides and the *Electra* of Sophocles. Mr. Franklin having favoured the world with a translation of the works of Sophocles, complimented Mrs. Yates with the *Orestes* for her benefit. This is the first time of this play's being exhibited on the English stage, though we have a play on this subject written by Mr. Thomas Goffe, which was performed only by the students of Christ-Church, Oxford, about the year 1633, the author or rather translator, being a student of that college †

The fable of this piece is a well known classical one, but is not so accurate as might be wished, there being a visible want of incident through the whole, which so peculiarly distinguishes the productions of the French theatre :

* Author of the Tragedy of The Earl of Warwick.

† We have also part of a translation of this play by the late ingenious Mr John Hughes, well known to the literary world, who did not live to finish it.
but

but this fault must be ascribed to the original author, and not to the translator. The moral of this piece is strictly just, and the sentiments in the amiable characters are noble and elevated, but savage to extravagance in the mouth of *Ægisthus*, though indeed little else is to be expected from the mouth of a tyrant. The manners are all, and well preserved from *Sophocles*, and the characters represented without alteration from antiquity.

CATHARINE AND PETRUCHIO.

March 14.

The ROMAN FATHER.
And THE APPRENTICE.

March 15.

No P L A Y.

March 16.

LIONEL AND CLARISSA.
A Comic Opera.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

This piece is infinitely preferable to the *Love in the City* of this writer, though greatly inferior to his *Love in a Village* or *Maid of the Mill*. The story is pleasingly told, nor is the music destitute of merit; but we think it is a pity the town have given such encouragement to this strange kind of composition, to the great neglect of that rational and more elegant entertainment resulting from the representation of a good play.

The C I T I Z E N.

March 17.

No P L A Y.

March 18.

A R T A X E R X E S.

An English Opera.

This drama is nothing more than a miserable translation of *Metastasio's Artaserse*, by Doctor *Arne*; however, his want of merit as a translator, is amply made amends by the great taste and skill he has shown in the composition of the music to this opera, which is inimitable, and too generally known to require explanation.

The U P H O L S T E R E E.

Note. From Monday March the 20th to Saturday the 25th, no play, being Passion week.

March 27.

KING RICHARD THE THIRD.

And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

March 28.

The ALBION QUEENS *.

A Tragedy.

By Banks.

The story of this piece is founded on the *Scotch* and *English* histories, to which the author has closely and impartially adhered, and well preserved that power of affecting the passions which appears through all the dramatic writings of this author, and sometimes makes ample amends for the want of poetry and language. The particulars of the story are generally known, containing an account of the death of *Mary Queen of Scotland*.

* The title of this piece was originally the *Island Queens*, and at first was prohibited the stage; however, under the title it now bears, it was afterwards permitted to be acted, but by what means we know not.

The WALKING STATUE;
Or, *The Devil in the Wine Cellar.*

A Farce.

By *Aaron Hill.*

This is a piece of very little merit, though written by Mr. *Hill*, (of whose abilities as a dramatic author the world is sufficiently acquainted with) the incidents being founded on the highest improbability.

March 29.

M E D E A.

A Tragedy.

By *Mr. Glover* *.

This excellent piece is formed after the model of the antients, each act concluding with a chorus, and does not seem either calculated or intended for representation. The author has displayed a great deal of that erudition he is known to possess, as well as a perfect knowledge of the ancient classics; add to this, poetical language and a forcibility of sentiment; and yet, the whole is declamatory and tedious to such a degree, that we doubt whether it will not tire even in the closet, so that it can by no means be adapted to the genius of the *English* stage.

It has never been performed, that we know of, but twice; once for the celebrated Mrs. *Yates's* benefit, and once for that of her husband's; when, by way of novelty, and supported by her excellent performance in the part of *Medea*, it passed with some degree of applause; but when we consider, that this was the applause of Mr and Mrs. *Yates's* friends af-

sembled to support their interest, and the credit of their benefit nights, we are inclined to think our readers will conclude this applause partial, and not the effect of any extraordinary pleasure afforded to the audience by the representation of the piece itself, abstracted from these particular circumstances.

The K N I G H T S.

A Comedy of Two Acts.

By *Mr. Foote.*

This is a very pleasing performance, containing some scenes of high merriment. The characters are drawn with a degree of accuracy, which would render them worthy to appear in a more regular and complete comedy. It is highly probably, that the character of Sir *Gregory Gazette* in this piece, afforded Mr. *Murphy* a hint which gave birth to his *Quidnunc* in the *Upbolslerer*.

March 30.

The W O N D E R.

And M I D A S.

March 31.

H A M L E T.

And THE OXONIAN IN TOWN.

April 1.

The R E F U S A L.

Or, THE LADY'S PHILOSOPHY†.

A Comedy.

By *C. Cibber.*

This is a very good Comedy, and more highly and correctly finished than many other of *Cibber's* dramatic pieces. The circumstances of the catastrophe

* Author of an Epic Poem, intitled *Leonidas*, and the tragedy of *Boadicia*.

† Mr. Garrick opened *Drury-Lane theatre*, with a revival of this play in the year 1747, being the first year of his commencing manager, depend

depend on the absurdities, folly, and infatuation of the year 1720*, when the bubbles of the *South-Sea* scheme rendered even men of sense fools, and by which they became the dupes of a designing set of villains. The piece has a double plot, the first of which is taken from the *Femmes Scavantes* of *Moliere*, and the latter is founded on the particulars mentioned above.

LOVE A-LA-MODE.

A Farce.

By Mr. Macklin.

This piece has been so frequently performed, notwithstanding the opposition it met with at first, and that so very lately, that it is too generally known to make it necessary for us to say much about it. It contains much satire, and very judiciously pointed, nor are the characters badly drawn, except that the author has shown a manifest partiality to his own countrymen the *Irish*; and that in a point, which the experience of their daily conduct so openly contradicts, viz. their disinterestedness with respect to pecuniary advantages in their matrimonial connections with the ladies of fortune of this kingdom. The hint of the catastrophe is evidently taken from *T. Cibber's* comedy of the *Lover*, and the *Irishman* seems to be nearly related to Mr. *Sheridan's* *Captain O'Blunder*.

April 3.

M A C B E T H.

And THE UPHOLSTERER.

April 4.

The JEALOUS WIFE.

And THE GUARDIAN.

A Comedy of Two Acts.

By Mr. Garrick.

This is an elegant little piece, singular in its merit, and attributed to Mr. Garrick. The groundwork is taken from M. *Fagan's* *Pupille*. The plot is simple and natural, the characters are well drawn and supported, and the language is easy, refined, and sentimental, altogether rendering it one of the best *petit* pieces on the *English* stage.

April 5.

JANE SHORE.

And THOMAS AND SALLY.

A Musical Entertainment of Two Acts.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

This piece being professedly written for music, has but little merit as a drama, except, that the virtue of *Sally* is proof against the offers of the *Squire*, who in point of fortune is her superior, which circumstance affords a very useful lesson to the female sex. It is set to music by Doctor *Arne*, with that taste and delicacy of expression so peculiarly natural to this great master.

April 6.

C Y R U S.

And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

April 7.

The CONSCIOUS LOVERS.

And The UPHOLSTERER.

* The year the play was first brought on the stage.

April 8.

The WONDER.
And THE DEVIL TO PAY.

April 10.

GEORGE BARNWELL.
And HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

April 11.

The ROMAN FATHER.
And THE ENGLISHMAN IN PARIS.

April 12.

KING LEAR.
And LETHE.

April 13.

The MAID OF THE MILL.
And THE KNIGHTS.

April 14.

The PROVOK'D HUSBAND.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

April 15.

ROMEO AND JULIET.
And THE UPHOLSTERER.

April 17.

ORONOKO.

A Comedy.

By *Southern*.

This excellent play and its merits are too well known to require any particular account of it here; but as the piece now played under this title is not the original *Oronoko* of *Southern*, it is necessary we should say something concerning the alteration it has undergone. The tragedy parts of this piece are inimitable, such as have been equalled by few, if excelled by any. But the author had unfortunately blended a comic part with the tragic action, which had scarcely any connection with it; besides, that it was high-

ly ludicrous, not to say indelicate and obscene. This so much destroyed the merit of the other part, that it is wonderful it could so long be suffered to be performed. Such being the case, and the fear of the play's being rendered contemptible, and perhaps banished to oblivion, Dr. *Hawkefworth* undertook to cleanse the *Augéan* stable, and thus pay a grateful tribute to the memory of an author in some respects almost deserving immortality. With this view, his first step was intirely to expunge the comic parts, and preserve the pure ore from the dross of filthiness. But as the comedy part took up so considerable a share in this piece, the tragedy part became apparently too short, and of course not sufficiently full of business to make out the catastrophe of an intire piece without the addition of more incidents. To remedy this defect, the Doctor gave a farther extent to the characters of *Aboan* and *Hotman*, and by this means adapted it once more for the stage in a new form. In this form it is now played, yet still, there seems to be something wanting; the addition to the serious part does not sufficiently fill up those places where the omissions have been made. The deficiency is visible, but it is difficult to say what might be done to remove the defect. It wants the addition of more incidents to remove its present languor, and we are afraid it will remain in its present state, as it seems to require the hand of a very great genius to give it the finish of perfection.

The scene is laid in one of our *English* colonies in *America*, and the plot is taken from a novel

novel of Mrs. Behn's of the same name.

The OXONIAN IN TOWN.

April 18.

LOVE MAKES A MAN:
Or, THE FOP'S FORTUNE.

A Comedy.

By C. Cibber.

This piece contains many absurdities, and the plot is founded on impossibilities, yet there is such a happy mixture of truly comic humour through the whole, as will always give pleasure to an audience fond of sprightly business and innocent merriment, and who are pleased with being amused without examining into the cause of what afforded them the entertainment. The plot is evidently taken partly from the *Custom of the Country*, by Beaumont and Fletcher, and partly from the *Elder Brother* of the same authors.

HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

April 19.

The ALBION QUEENS.
And THE ENGLISHMAN IN PARIS.

April 20.

The STRATAGEM.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

April 21.

The ENGLISH MERCHANT.
And HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

April 22.

The CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.
And THE UPHOLSTERER.

April 24.

O R O N O K O.
And HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

April 25.

C Y M B E L I N E.
And THE DEVIL TO PAY.

April 26.

The COUNTESS OF SALISBURY.
And Catherine and Petruchio.

April 27.

The B U S Y B O D Y.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

April 28.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE.
And THE APPRENTICE.

April 29.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
And HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS

May 1.

K I N G L E A R.
And HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

May 2.

The BEGGAR'S OPERA.
And Catharine and Petruchio,

May 3.

K I N G J O H N*.
A Tragedy.

By Shakespeare.

Dr. Johnson observes of this play, that "though it is not written with the utmost power of Shakespeare, yet it is varied with a very pleasing interchange of incidents and characters. The lady's

* It is called the Life and Death of King John, which is wrong, for the action of this play begins at the 34th year of his life, and takes in only some transactions of his reign to the time of his demise, being an interval of about seventeen years.

grief is very affecting, and the character of the *Bastard* contains that mixture of greatness and levity which this author delighted to exhibit. This play was originally written in two parts, but afterwards altered and thrown into one piece by the author. The plot is taken from the *English* historians, and the scene lies sometimes in *England* and sometimes in *France*.

HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

May 4.

The FAIR PENITENT.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

May 5.

JANE SHORE.
And MISS IN HER TEENS.

May 6.

The RECRUITING OFFICER.
A Comedy.

By Farquhar.

This is a very excellent piece, abounding with many lively scenes. The characters are drawn with great exactness, nature, and originality. The wit is truly genuine, and the language is easy, familiar, and spirited. In short, we know of no piece more generally applauded on the *English* stage, or more highly deserving of it. The scene is laid at *Shrewsbury* in *Shropshire*.

The DEVIL TO PAY.

May 8.

C Y M B E L I N E.
And THE UPHOLSTERER.

May 9.

ROMEO AND JULIET.
And The *Englishman* in *Paris*.

May 10.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

May 11.

The PROVOK'D HUSBAND.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

May 12.

LOVE MAKES A MAN, &c.
And THE DEVIL TO PAY.

May 13.

No P L A Y.

May 15.

The ROMAN FATHER.
And THE OXONIAN IN TOWN.

May 16.

C Y M B E L I N E.
And THE CITIZEN.

May 17.

GEORGE BARNWELL.
And MISS IN HER TEENS.

May 18.

KING RICHARD THE THIRD.
And THE UPHOLSTERER.

May 19.

The M I S S E R.
And HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

May 20.

The CONFEDERACY.
And HARLEQUIN DR. FAUSTUS.

May 22.

C Y R U S.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

May 23.

M A C B E T H.
And MIDAS.

May

May 24.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

May 25.

C Y R U S.
And THE APPRENTICE.

N. B. The theatre shut up the
25th of May, and opened
again,

September 18.

With LOVE IN A VILLAGE.
And THE MILLER OF MANSFIELD

September 19.

No P L A Y.

September 20.

The B U S Y B O D Y..
And MIDAS.

September 21.

No P L A Y.

September 22.

KING HENRY THE FIFTH.
An Historical Play.

By Shakespeare.

This play has many scenes of
high dignity, and many of easy
merriment. The character of the
King is well supported, except in
his courtship, where he has neither
the vivacity of *Hal*, nor the gran-
deur of Henry. The scene lies
partly in *England* and partly in
France.

The CORONATION.

This is an exact representation
of the procession to the coronation
of their present Majesties, and of
the ceremony of the *Champion* in
Westminster-Hall, &c.

September 23.

No P L A Y.

September 25.

GEORGE BARNWELL.

And THE DRAGON OF WANTLEY.
A Burlesque Opera.

By Mr. H. Caney.

The plot of this piece is taken
from the old ballad of *Moore of
Moore-Hall*, the incidents of which
are very judiciously worked up
with a great degree of humour,
and is a fine burlesque on *Italian*
operas, so much encouraged by the
town at the time this piece was
written. The music was compos-
ed by the late Mr. *Frederick Lampe*,
and is admirably adapted to the
intention of the piece.

September 26.

No P L A Y.

September 27.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

September 28.

No P L A Y.

September 29.

The MAID OF THE MILL.
And THE CITIZEN.

September 30.

The RECRUITING OFFICER.
And THE DEVIL TO PAY.

October 2.

The M I S E R.
And HARLEQUIN Dr. FAUSTUS.

October 3.

She Wou'd and She Wou'd Not, &c.
And MIDAS.

October 4.

KING RICHARD THE THIRD.
And the CORONATION.

P 4

October

October 5.

The INCONSTANT.
And THE DRAGON OF WANTLEY.

October 6.

ROMEO AND JULIET.
And THE UPHOLSTERER.

October 7.

MAN AND WIFE:
Or, THE SHAKESPEARE JUBILEE.
A Comedy of Three Acts.

By Mr. Colman.

The circumstance of the *Stratford Jubilee* in honour of *Shakespeare*, furnished the hint of this piece. The story is extremely simple, and seems only calculated to give the public an idea of this famous festival. It is introduced by a prelude, in which the author pays a grateful tribute to the memory of his friend and brother-manager the late celebrated Mr. *William Powell*; and at the same time mentions Mr. *Garrick* with the highest praise and respect, in return for purloining his Pageant procession*, and hereby endeavouring to deprive him of the advantages he had so just a right to expect from it. But it may be urged, that Mr. *Colman* had an equal right to avail himself of a circumstance which he might easily foresee, would turn out highly to the advantage of the other house. But how far this matter may be blameable or praise-worthy, it is not our business in this

place to determine, we therefore return to the piece. Mr. *Colman* found it necessary to interweave a love-plot with the scenery of the *Stratford* exhibition, which, tho' done in haste, is not destitute of merit, nor can any great things be said in its favour. It contains some humour, though not very sterling; the character of *Kitchen* is indeed well drawn and strongly marked, and may be said to be original, except, that the hint is taken from the *Connoisseur*, a paper written principally by Mr. *Colman* himself, so that he had a right to make free with his own. The tea-table conversation between Mr. and Mrs. *Cross* is no bad picture of the comforts of matrimony; and in the character of *Marcourt*, we have the fop of the present time so universally insignificant under the title of *Macaroni*. As the piece was well received by the public, and has been frequently represented, we think it must be too generally known to make it necessary to relate the particulars of the plan; we shall therefore close this article with the order of the *Pageant*, introduced at the end of the second act. The scene is laid at *Stratford-upon-Avon*.

The ORDER of the PAGEANT.

Martial Music.

ROMAN CHARACTERS.

Soldiers—two by two.

Fasces.

Trophies—S. P. Q. R. &c.

* In the prologue to Mr. *Garrick's Jubilee*, this circumstance of Mr. *Colman's* forestalling the other, is finely remarked under the similitude of the two alehouses betwixt *Brentford* and *Colnbrooke*. See the Prologue among our poetical pieces.

† The music to this *Pageant* was composed and adapted by Mr. *Arnold*, so justly celebrated for his inimitable composition, *The Cure of Saul*.

CORIO-

CORIOLANUS.

Roman Ladies—dishevelled.

JULIUS CÆSAR.

The Roman Eagle.

Brutus and Cassius—bearing
daggers.*Soft Music.*

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA.

Charmian and Iras.

Grand Music.

OLD ENGLISH CHARACTERS.

KING JOHN.

Constance, Prince Arthur, and
Hubert.

RICHARD THE THIRD.

Edward the Fifth—and the Duke
of York.

HARRY THE EIGHTH.

Cardinal Wolsey.

*Coronation Anthem.*Anne Bull n under a Coronation
Canopy.

Attendants.

Magical Music "above, about, and
underneath."

PROSPERO.

Miranda and Ferdinand.

Drunken Sailors.

Trinculo and Caliban.

Ariel.

Dæmons and other Spirits.

Macbeth's Music.

HECATE.

Witches—two by two.

The two Baby Spirits—one with
a Crown, the other with a Bough.*Fairy Music.*OBERON and TITANIA—in a
Nutshell.

Other Fairies.

Solemn Music.

The TRAGIC MUSE.

OTHELLO AND DESDEMONA.

GHOST IN HAMLET.

Hamlet, following the Ghost, with
his sword drawn, Ophelia in
her Madness.

LEAR AND CORDELIA.

JACHIMO.

POSTHUMUS AND IMOGEN.

Bellarius between the two Brothers.

MACBETH, with daggers bloody.

Banquo's Ghost.

Lady Macbeth with the Candle.

FRIAR LAWRENCE.

Dead March in Saul.

Juliet's Bier. Attendants.

Allegro.

The COMIC MUSE.

Shallow and Silence.

Slender and Dr. Caius.

Ford, Sir Hugh Evans, and Page.

Mrs. Quickly and Pistol.

Bardolph and Nym.

Mrs. Ford, Falstaff, and Mrs. Page.

TOUCHSTONE AND LANCELOT.

MALVOLIO, cross-gartered.

Andante.

FLORIZEL AND PERDITA.

Autolycus.

ANTONIO AND BASSANIO.

Portia and Nerissa, (as lawyers.)

Shylock—with knife, scales, and
bond.*Flourish.*

DRAMATIC TROPHIES.

PEGASUS.

APOLLO.

The Car (drawn by the Muses)
containing theBust of SHAKESPEARE, crown-
ed by TIME and FAME;And attended by the THREE
GRACES, Cupids, Satyrs, Bac-
chanals, &c.

AIR,

* AIR, by Mrs. MATTOCKS.

I.

" Sweetest Bard that ever sung,
 " Nature's glory, Fancy's child;
 " Never sure did witching tongue,
 " Warble forth such wood-notes
 wild!

II.

" Come, each Muse and sister
 Grace,
 " Loves and Pleasures hither come;
 " Well you know this happy place,
 " Avon's banks were once your
 home.

III.

" Bring the laurel, bring the
 flow'rs,
 " Songs of triumph to him raise;
 " He united all your pow'rs,
 " All uniting, sing his praise!"

As we have given an account of
 the entertainment brought out at
 Drury-Lane theatre in consequence
 of the *Stratford Jubilee*, we leave
 our readers to draw the comparison
 between that and this.

DAMON AND PHILLIDA.

October 9.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
 And DAMON AND PHILLIDA.

October 10.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
 And THOMAS AND SALLY.

October 11.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
 And the Intriguing Chambermaid.

October 12.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
 And THE MOCK DOCTOR.
 A Ballad Farce.

By Mr. Henry Fielding.

Excepting the songs introduced
 in this piece, there is little of it
 to be ascribed to Mr. Fielding, it
 being almost wholly a translation
 of the *Medecin malgré lui* of Mo-
 liere; but the spirit of the origi-
 nal is well preserved.

October 13.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
 And THE DRAGON OF WANDLEY.

October 14.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
 And THE CONTRIVANCES.
 A Ballad Farce.

By Mr. Henry Carey.

This is one of the best of those
 little pieces written by this author,
 who had a very happy turn for
 pieces of this nature; the music
 was composed by himself.

October 16.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE.
 And THE CITIZEN.

October 17.

LOVE MAKES A MAN, &c.
 And MIDAS.

October 18.

The ORPHAN.
 And THE OXONIAN IN TOWN.

October 19.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
 And THE CITIZEN.

* From Mr. Garrick's Ode on dedicating a building to Shakespeare.

October

October 20.

The ORPHAN.
And THE CHAPLET.
A Musical Entertainment.

By Mr. Mendez.

This pleasing pastoral is very happily imagined, and considering the poetry was written to be set to music, it is not badly executed. The music was composed by Dr. Boyce, who, in this work, has not only discovered a fine taste, but great knowledge in the art of producing various effects from the powers of musical composition.

October 21.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
And THE UPHOLSTERER.

October 23.

The ORPHAN.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

October 24.

Rule a Wife and Have a Wife.
A Comedy.

By Beaumont and Fletcher.

This play has some irregularities hardly compatible with the dramatic laws, yet it is a very pleasing piece, and contains many beautiful scenes, which have not been equalled, or however excelled, by any of our modern writers.

M I D A S.

October 25.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

October 26.

JANE SHORE.
And THE CHAPLET.

October 27.

LIONEE AND CLARISSA.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

October 28.

KING RICHARD THE THIRD.
And THE CORONATION.

October 30.

The MAID OF THE MILL.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

October 31.

MAN AND WIFE, &c.
And The Dragon of Wantley.

November 1.

C Y R U S.
And THE COUNTRY WIFE.

November 2.

Rule a Wife and Have a Wife.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

November 3.

A BOLD STROKE FOR A WIFE.
A Comedy.

By Centlivre.

The variety of business in the dramatic action of this piece, has from its first appearance rendered it a favourite play, notwithstanding the language is wretched, and the plot founded on the highest absurdities, and indeed we may say, absolute impossibilities.

HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

November 4.

T A M E R L A N E.
And The Rape of Proserpine;
With the Birth and Adventures of
Harlequin.
A Pantomime.

The story of the *Rape of Proserpine* is well known. The poetry part of this piece, which is set to music, was written by Mr. Lewis Theobald, but the grotesque part was added by the late Mr. Rich. We believe this story was first performed as a dramatic entertainment,

ment, without the birth and adventures of Harlequin. Since it first appeared in the form of a pantomime, it has been frequently revived with great success, and brought crowded houses for a considerable time, while some of the best dramatic pieces which do such honour to the credit of the *British* theatre, have been laid aside and neglected. This entertainment was revived at this time with alterations and additions; the principal of which is, first, what is called a representation of the eruptions of *Mount Aetna*; (a poor representation indeed) and secondly, the *Palace of Pluto*. This last is the famous scene designed and executed by *Servandoni* many years ago, but never exhibited till now. This scene cost the late Mr. *Rich* an immense sum of money. To give a description of it would be doing great injustice to its merits, since it beggars all description. We have seen many scenes in pantomimes more glaring and showy, and consequently better calculated to please the multitude; but this is beyond the usual tinsel, tawdry scenes exhibited in the pantomimes of these days, being a complete piece of architecture, finished in the highest manner, and adorned with an imitation of precious stones, the whole producing an effect truly magnificent and superb.

November 6.

T A M E R L A N E.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 7.

The B U S Y B O D Y.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 8.

The O R P H A N.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 9.

GEORGE BARNWELL.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 10.

J A N E S H O R E.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 11.

The BEGGAR'S OPERA.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 13.

The O R P H A N.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 14.

The RECRUITING OFFICER.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 15.

The ENGLISH MERCHANT.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 16.

The BEGGAR'S OPERA.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 17.

The COUNTRY LASSES:
Or, The Custom of the Manor.
A Comedy.

By Mr. Charles Johnson.

This is far from being a despicable performance, containing a variety of business, which cannot fail to engage the attention of an audience. It has two distinct plots, and both well conducted, nor are the principal characters badly drawn.

The RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November

November 18.

C Y R U S.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 21.

The BEGGAR'S OPERA.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 20.

MAN AND WIFE, &c,
And THE OXONIAN IN TOWN.

November 22.

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 23.

The WAY TO KEEP HIM.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 24.

ARTAXERXES.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 25.

JANE SHORE.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 27.

H A M L E T.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 28,

The MAID OF THE MILL.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 29.

The PROVOK'D HUSBAND.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

November 30.

LOVE IN A VILLAGE.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

December 1.

The TWIN RIVALS.

A Comedy.

By Farquhar.

This is an excellent play, notwithstanding there are many improbabilities in the conduct of the plot. The principal characters are finely drawn, and perhaps more highly finished than in any other of Farquhar's dramatic pieces.

The RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

December 2.

The BROTHERS.

A Comedy,

By Mr. Cumberland *.

This is an excellent, and an original piece, superior to any thing of the kind produced in this age, if we take the author's own word for it †; but when people are obliged to sound their own praise, it generally happens that no one thinks they are intitled to any. This seems to be the case respecting the piece before us. It has no originality to boast of in respect to the plot, nor is there one new character in the whole piece, or that has the least shadow of novelty. As to the sentiments, the author has attempted to display his talents in sentimental writing, but his attempts have proved abortive. The diction throughout is wretched, and generally out of character: and lastly, in respect to the moral, the author should have told the audience what he intended it should be, by an explanatory couplet at the conclusion

* Author of the Banishment of Cicero, a tragedy, printed, but never performed, and of The Summer's Tale, a comic opera, played a few nights at Covent-Garden, but without success.

† See the Prologue amongst the Poetry.

of the piece, or else we imagine it will be very difficult for them to discover it. In short the whole is a very flimsy performance, badly designed, and still more wretchedly executed; and therefore, we can only attribute the little success it met with, to the excellent manner in which it was played.

The CONTRIVANCES.

December 4.

The BROTHERS.
And THE CHAPLET.

December 5.

The BROTHERS.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

December 6.

The BROTHERS.
And THE DEVIL TO PAY.

December 7.

The BROTHERS.
And THE ENGLISHMAN IN PARIS

December 8.

The BROTHERS.
And THE UPHOLSTERER.

December 9.

The BROTHERS.
And MIDAS.

December 11.

The BROTHERS.
And THE SPANISH LADY.
A Musical Entertainment of Two Acts.

By Mr. Hull*.

This piece was originally represented for an actor's benefit two seasons ago, and was now revived with alterations. The well known

ballad of *The Spanish Lady* afforded the hint of this piece, which is here wrought up into a musical drama, in which the simplicity of the old song is well preserved, and not badly adapted to the stage.

December 12.

The BROTHERS.
And THE SPANISH LADY.

December 13.

The BROTHERS.
And THE SPANISH LADY.

December 14.

The BROTHERS,
And THE SPANISH LADY.

December 15.

A M I N T A S.
An English Serious Opera.

This piece is founded on the story of *Alexander's* raising the poor gardener to the throne of *Sidon* in the room of *Strato* the tyrant whom he had deposed. This story has been made the subject of an *Italian* opera by *Metastasio*, of which *Amintas* is only a translation, and that a very wretched one. Some few years ago a translation of this opera was brought out at Drury-Lane theatre under the title of the *Royal Shepherd*, by Mr. *Rush* the composer of the music. The piece before us was introduced on the stage by Mr. *Tenducci*, the celebrated Italian singer, who adapted the music, which consists of some of the best airs from *Rush's* opera, a few *Scotch* airs, and the rest from the works of different composers.

The ENGLISHMAN IN PARIS.

* One of the Comedians belonging to this theatre.

THEATRICAL REGISTER.

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December 16.
The BROTHERS.
And THE SPANISH LADY.

December 18.
The BROTHERS.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

December 19.
M A C B E T H.
And MIDAS.

December 20.
Rule a Wife and Have a Wife.
And THE MUSICAL LADY.

December 21.
A M I N T A S.
And HARLEQUIN SKELETON.

December 22.
The STRATAGEM.
And THOMAS AND SALLY.

December 23.
The BROTHERS.
And THE SPANISH LADY.

December 25.
No PLAY.

December 26.
The BEGGAR'S OPERA.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE

December 27.
The M I S E R.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

December 28.
KING RICHARD THE THIRD.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

December 29.
The FIRST PART OF
KING HENRY the FOURTH.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.

December 30.
LOVE IN A VILLAGE.
And THE RAPE OF PROSERPINE.



ORATORIOS

*Performed at Covent - Garden
Theatre during the Lent season,
under the direction of Messrs.
Smith and Stanley.*

February 10.

G I D E O N.

THIS is a new oratorio; the music of the songs and chorusses was collected from the works of Mr. *Handel*, and the recitatives composed by Mr. *Smith*. We cannot commend this piece, it being altogether a very tedious and heavy performance.

February 15.

G I D E O N.

February 17.

ACIS AND GALATEA.

This is a serenata, though performed as an oratorio, the words of which were written by Mr. *Gay*. Mr. *Handel* composed this piece for the Duke of *Chandois*. This is a very elegant and complete performance, so generally known as to make it unnecessary to enlarge on its merits. This piece being too short for a whole evening's entertainment. Mr. *Dryden*'s celebrated *Ode* (the music of which is also composed by Mr. *Handel*) was performed with *Acis* and *Galatea*. There are many singular beauties in the composition of this ode, but we cannot think it equal in merit to *Acis* and *Galatea*.

February

February 22.

JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

By Mr. Handel.

This is a very masterly performance, in general more pleasing (though less grand) than many of Mr. Handel's oratorios, the subject of the drama not requiring that solemnity of stile which some others demand.

February 24.

J O S H U A.

By Mr. Handel.

This is a very excellent composition, in which there are many proofs of the amazing genius of this great master.

March 1.

S A M P S O N.

By Mr. Handel.

The story on which this oratorio is founded is universally known, and so is the merit of the music. This perhaps is one of the best of all Mr. Handel's performances in this species of composition.

March 3.

ISRAEL IN EGYPT.

By Mr. Handel.

We cannot rank this among the most capital of Mr. Handel's oratorios; and yet, it has great merit in one particular, viz. the attempt to characterize the idea of the plagues of Egypt by the power of music; in which, perhaps, the composer has carried the force of imitation to its utmost extent.

March 8.

S A M P S O N.

March 10.

JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

March 15.

M E S S I A H.

By Mr. Handel.

This noble performance met with a cool reception at first, partly owing to the prejudice of Mr. Handel's enemies, but more particularly, from this species of entertainment not being sufficiently suited to the apprehensions of people in general, at the time this piece appeared. His not meeting with encouragement for his oratorios, equal either to his expectations or his merit, in London, led him to hope for better success in a distant capital. He accordingly went over to Dublin, where he thought he could not better pave the way to his success, than by setting out with a striking instance and public act of generosity and benevolence. His first step was to perform this oratorio for the benefit of the city prison. Such a design drew together not only all the lovers of music, but all the friends of humanity. There was a peculiar propriety in this design from the subject of the oratorio itself, and there was a peculiar grace in it from the situation of Mr. Handel's affairs. They were brought into a better posture by this journey to Dublin, where he staid almost nine months. The reception that he met with, at the same time that it shewed the strong sense which the Irish had of his extraordinary merit, conveyed a kind of tacit reproach on all those on the other side of the water who had enlisted in the opposition against him. The cause of this opposition, and the various, relative circumstances, it is not our business to relate in this place; should the reader be desirous to make himself acquainted

acquainted with the particulars, he may find them related at large in the *memoirs* of his life, published in the year 1760; but we thought the above anecdote could not well be omitted here, as it related to the history of this celebrated performance.

On Mr. *Handel*'s return to *London* in the year 1741-2, he found his success at *Dublin* had changed the face of things here, and that the minds of most men were much disposed in his favour; he therefore re-commenced his oratorios at Covent-Garden theatre; and now fortune seemed rather to court and caress than to countenance and support him. This was the æra of his prosperity; and what is very remarkable, his *Messiah*, which, as we observed before, had been received with so much indifference, became from this time the favourite oratorio. As in the year 1741, it was applied to the relief of persons exposed to all the miseries of perpetual confinement, it was afterwards consecrated to the service of the most innocent, most helpless, and most distressed part of the human species. The *Foundling Hospital*, originally rested on the slender foundation of private benefactions. At a time when this institution was yet in its infancy, when all men seemed to be convinced of its utility, when nothing was at all problematical but the possibility of supporting it, Mr. *Handel* formed the noble resolution to lend his assistance, and perform his *Messiah* annually for its benefit. The sums raised by each performance were very considerable, and certainly of great consequence in such a crisis of affairs.

But what was of much greater was the magic of his name, and the universal character of his sacred drama. By these charms, vast numbers of the nobility and gentry were drawn to the hospital; and many who at first had been content with barely approving the design, were afterwards warmly engaged in promoting it. In consequence of this resort, the attention of the nation was also drawn more forcibly to what was indeed the natural object of it. So that it may truly be affirmed, that one of the noblest and most extensive charities that ever was planned by the wisdom, or projected by the piety of men, in some degree owes its continuance, as well as prosperity, to the patronage of Mr. *Handel*, and the merit of his *Messiah*. The very successful application of this wonderful production of his genius to so beneficent a purpose, reflected equal honour on the artist and the art. Thus much by way of the history of this oratorio.

Of this wonderful performance, we cannot help observing, that there are great inequalities in it; and as the subject is so very sacred, the music is of course very solemn; from which cause, many of the songs are insufferably tedious and heavy; but taking it altogether, it is superior in all probability to any thing ever executed by the art of man. In the chorusses he has given innumerable instances of an unbounded genius. In short, there is such a sublimity in many of the effects he has worked up by the combination of instruments and voices, that they seem to be rather the effect of inspiration than of knowledge in music. Out of a
Q multitude

multitude of examples, we shall only instance the following *viz.*

*For unto us a child is born, &c.
Lift up your heads, O ye gates, &c.
Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth, &c.*

After these vast efforts of genius, we find him rising still higher in the three concluding choruses, (beginning with, "*Worthy is the lamb that was slain*") each of which surpasses the preceding, till in the winding up of the *Amen*, the ear is filled with such a glow of harmony, as leaves the mind in a kind of heavenly extasy.

March 17.

M E S S I A H.



ORATORIOS;

Performed at the Little Theatre in the Haymarket during the Lent season, under the direction of Messrs. Arnold and Toms.*

February 10.

JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

February 15.

The DEATH OF ABEL.

The music by Signor Piccini †

This is no very pleasing performance, and the words being translated from the *Italian*, and applied to those very airs they were set to in the original, produced a very wretched effect; so that here we may say with great truth, *sense* was frequently sacrificed to *sound*. Some few choruses were added from the works of other matters at this representation.

February 17.

M E S S I A H.

February 22.

S A M P S O N.

February 24.

The CURE OF SAUL.

A Sacred Ode.

The music by Mr. Arnold.

The celebrated poem of *The Cure of Saul*, written by the late ingenious *Doctor Brown*, is well known. This piece was performed some years since for the benefit of a public charity at Drury-Lane

* *The high price of admission to Mr. Handel's oratorios at the other house, being such as could not well be afforded by the generality of the frequenters of play-houses, the above gentlemen entered into partnership, and opened Mr. Foote's theatre two seasons ago for oratorios at play-house prices; by which means, many have had an opportunity of enjoying the pleasures of this noble species of entertainment, who were heretofore excluded on account of the expence. It must indeed be confessed, that the band is not so numerous, and consequently not so powerful as that at the other house; but considering all things, the oratorios performed here have been conducted with some degree of credit. The musical abilities of Mr. Arnold are sufficiently known, but we know not what pretensions Mr. Toms has to the character of a musician, unless he derives it from having compiled music to the oratorio of Israel in Babylon from the instrumental works of Mr. Handel, but with no great degree of ingenuity.*

† *The composer of the celebrated Comic Opera, intitled La Buona Figliola. theatre,*

theatre, the music being then compiled from the works of different masters by *Doctor Brown*, in which he was assisted by *Mr. Avison* of *Newcastle*. The applause it then received was very inconsiderable, it being tedious and heavy. What is now performed is the *Ode* new set to music by *Mr. Arnold*, who has shown a fine taste, as well as great knowledge in the science of music, by the masterly subjects of his choruses, and judicious combination of the voices and instruments.

March 1.

M E S S I A H.

March 3.

JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

March 8.

S A M P S O N.

March 10.

M E S S I A H.

March 15.

The CURE OF SAUL.

March 17.

M E S S I A H.

AN ACCOUNT of the New Pieces performed during the summer season at *Mr. Foote's Theatre* in the Haymarket *.

DR. LAST IN HIS CHARIOT.

A Comedy of Three Acts.

By *Mr. Bickerstaff*.

THIS piece is intended as a sequel to *Mr. Foote's Devil upon Two Sticks*, exhibited with great success last season. The ground-work is evidently taken from *Moliere's La Malade Imaginaire*, and is written without any regard to the laws of the drama, yet there are many circumstances in it exceedingly diverting, as well as many more justly reprehensible; at the same time, that the original is too strictly imitated, nor does it contain a sufficient variety of incidents or characters. We have here a proof, that an author who gives a second part to any particular work which has greatly succeeded, writes to a very great disadvantage, having all the reputation of the first part to combat with, and hereby raises his auditors to a pinnacle of expectation he is seldom, if ever, capable of answering; of this, we have had innumerable instances. On the first night's representation, the murmurs of the audience arose to such a pitch as to prevent the

* We think it unnecessary to give a list of every performance at this theatre during the season, as many of the pieces performed are old stock-plays already criticised in the list of the other houses; we shall therefore, only present our readers with an account of the new pieces brought out this season.

conclusion of the last act; however, on the second exhibition, (the exceptionable parts being omitted, and the whole piece considerably altered) it was received with more favour.

The CAPTIVE.

A Comic Opera.

By Mr. Bickerstaff.

This was the second new piece exhibited during the course of the season, the ground-work of which, is taken from a comic episode in Dryden's *Don Sebastian*, and converted into a musical drama. We cannot think the author has sufficiently adapted it to the stage so as to produce any very singular effect. As a vehicle for music it answered very well, and in no other view do we think it intitled to any great degree of praise.

Having given a complete list of every performance at the different theatres during the course of the year 1769, this department of our work should properly end here; but as we have an opportunity of giving our readers some account of several new pieces brought out since the commencement of the year 1770, we are unwilling to delay the insertion of it to the next volume.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

A TRIP to SCOTLAND.

A Dramatic Entertainment.

By William Whitehead, Esq.

THIS piece was exhibited for the first time, January 6, 1770, and met with a very favourable reception. The prologue was spoken by Master Cape in the character of *Cupid* dressed as a *post-chaise-boy*, for which see our class of poetry.

The CHARACTERS OF THIS PIECE, ARE,

Mr. Griskin, an old citizen
Jemmy Twinkle
Tom Southerton
The Waiter
Miss Griskin
Miss Dolly Flack
Mrs. Fillagree
Landlady
Maid

Mr. Parsons,
Mr. Brereton.
Mr. Palmer.
Mr. Booth.
Miss Pope.
Miss Burton.
Mrs. Bradshaw.
Mrs. Love.
Miss Platt.

The piece opens with a scene betwixt *Griskin* and his housekeeper Mrs. *Fillagree*, whom he reproves with great severity for having suffered *Jemmy Twinkle* (a young *City Buck*) to make love to his niece, and run away with her to *Edinburgh*, as there is great reason to suppose he has. *Fillagree* endeavours to vindicate herself

with some degree of warmth and spirit, but *Griskin* is by no means satisfied; and having determined to pursue the fugitive lovers, he goes out to engage a post-chaise for that purpose. *Fillagree* then introduces Miss *Griskin* and *Jemmy*, who were concealed in an adjacent apartment, and informs them they have no time to lose; that.

that *Griskin* will not be able to overtake them, but if there should be the least likelihood of his doing so, she will bribe the post-boy to overturn him. Matters being thus settled, *Miss* affects to be very melancholy, and shews great reluctance to proceed on the expedition; however, she at length consents, after having been strongly solicited by *Jemmy* in the most ardent terms, in which he professes the most sincere love and attachment to her.

They are no sooner gone, but *Griskin* returns, and acquaints *Filagree* he has found out the route the young folks have taken, for that four or five couple went off post-haste that morning for *Scotland*; and that by the description *Jemmy* and his niece were amongst them. In consequence of this information, he desires *Filagree* to prepare to accompany him in the pursuit of them. *Filagree*, who appears to have a design on her master, seems startled at the request, and insinuates the danger she may be in of losing her character by going with him; and at last hints, that the family of the *Flacks*, their near neighbours, of whom they seem to stand in great awe, will certainly propagate some scandalous story on the occasion. *Griskin*, however, at last gets the better of her scruples, and after mutual compliments, they prepare for the journey. This concludes the first act.

Cupid then appears as the *Chorus*, and acquaints the audience, that they are to imagine the lovers had succeeded in their expedition, according to their warmest wishes; that he hopes they will not expect a critical adherence to the

rules of the drama, but suffer him to annihilate *time* and *place*, and then suppose the scene to be at an inn in *Yorkshire*; accordingly, he snaps his whip, and the second act opens with the inside of a large inn on the road, with a view of a bar, larder, stair-case, and different apartments. A great bustle ensues among the servants of the house; the landlady enters, rings the bar-bell, and expresses some concern for the fatigue she is continually obliged to undergo in consequence of the numerous and perpetual matrimonial trips to *Scotland*. Several travellers are introduced by the waiters, and accommodated according to their desires. *Miss Griskin* (now *Mrs. Twinkle*) enters in great spirits in her return from *Scotland*, and tells the landlady she is quite another thing since her wedding; and that if she was to be married fifty times, she would, from many agreeable circumstances she met with upon the journey, make all her lovers run away with her to *Edinburgh*. After some time *Mr. Twinkle* arrives counting his money and calculating his expences, in a very sullen humour, and seems very insensible of the warmth of affection and assiduities of his spouse, who accuses him of coldness, and declares her disappointment at his not acting consistently with his professions to her during his courtship, when he wrote the verses on her first appearance at *Haberdasher's-ball*, and the lines on her biting off a finger of her glove at the *White Conduit House*. Her praising his poetry brings the churl into temper again, to which a reconciliation succeeds, and they retire in good humour to their apartment.

A violent disturbance next ensues, which greatly alarms the company in the house. This is occasioned by *Grifkin's* arrival at the inn, which he insists on being searched from top to bottom in expectation of finding his niece. This is opposed by the *Landlady*, and seconded by *Fillagree*, who declares with some affectation she is unable to pursue the journey, which brings the old man into good humour, who, in pity to *Fillagree's* complaints, agrees to lie there that night. The *Landlady*, supposing them man and wife, enquires whether they lie in one bed; from which question *Fillagree* is thrown into great distress with respect to the injury her character will sustain from attending *Grifkin* on the journey, nor is she to be satisfied till she is assured she shall have a bed at least six chambers distant from that in which her master is to sleep. They are no sooner gone out, but the waiter enters, and acquaints his mistress, that the young couple are detected by the old gentleman, and that very disagreeable consequences are likely to ensue.

The scene now changes and discovers *Grifkin*, *Fillagree*, Miss *Grifkin*, and *Jemmy*. The lovers fall on their knees, and the old man seems inclined to forgive them, but is restrained by the idea of what the world, particularly the family of the *Flacks*, will say to his conduct. At this instant a number of people, preceded by *Dolly Flack*, who seems in great distress, enter the room: *Dolly* entertains *Grifkin* to take compassion on her misfortunes, which she says have been occasioned by her eloping from her parents, in order to

marry a young fellow at *Edinburgh*, who even now, before half their journey was accomplished, treats her with the most cruel indifference. *Grifkin's* surprise leads him to enquire into the cause of this uncommon behaviour, when *Southerton*, the young man, tells him, that being a strolling player by profession, he came to *London* in order to get engaged at one of the theatres, but having been disappointed in his prospects, he flattered himself a marriage with Miss *Flack* would answer his purpose as well, especially as one of his friends assured him, she had ten thousand pounds in her own possession; that upon this hint, he made overtures, and found the lady, from her violent passion for romance very ready to acquiesce with his proposals; that they set out from *London* in high spirits, but before they had reached *York*, an express was sent him from his friend, assuring him, Miss *Flack's* fortune intirely depended on the will of a grandmother and two maiden aunts; that, as he was too honest to make the young lady a beggar as well as himself, he was determined to relinquish the match, and hoped by such proceeding, his conduct would rather be applauded than blamed.

Grifkin overjoyed to find the family of the *Flacks* had no right to accuse him with the misconduct of his niece, gives his blessing to her and her husband, undertakes to reconcile *Dolly Flack* to her parents, and signifies his desire to enter into a matrimonial union with *Fillagree*. A colloquial epilogue betwixt *Fillagree* and *Cupid* concludes the piece, with recommending to all young ladies to think

think seriously before they venture upon marriage, and to take no forward step, but,

"Let each kind parent's voice complete the plan,
"And blush consent even then behind their fan."

These are the out-lines of the fable of this singular production, which, except the episode of *Southerton* and *Dolly Flack*, and also a few expressions rather bordering on indelicacy, the piece has great merit, and is highly calculated to afford entertainment, at the same time that the moral to be drawn from it is no bad lesson for the young ladies of *Great Britain*. The scene of the *Inn in Yorkshire*, painted on purpose for this piece, is well executed, and the representation in general was excellent.

A new comedy is shortly to appear at this theatre, called *A Word to the Wife*, but as this part of our work could not be delayed, we must defer an account of it till the next volume, when it will have a place in its proper course.

COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.

THE COURT OF ALEXANDER.

A Burlesque Opera of Two Acts,
By Mr. George Alexander Stevens.

THIS extraordinary production opens with the Court of Alexander, consisting of *Alexander*, *Clytus*, *Lyfimachus*, and others, who are discovered asleep, bottles, glasses, and punch-bowls appear empty upon the table; the guards lie in disorder slumbering upon the floor. The nobles at

length awake by degrees, and call upon *Alexander*, who, after complaining of his last night's drinking, orders a pot of coffee, and commands *Thais* to entertain him with a song; the court then march off in procession, the attendants bearing the bottles, punch-bowls, quart-pots, pipes, and papers of tobacco as trophies. As the *King* is going off with *Thais*, *Roxana* enters in a violent rage, and pulling the monarch by his robe, throws him down, and a contention between the two ladies concludes the first act.

The second act commences with a scene, in which *Parisatis* discovers her affection for *Lyfimachus* to her maid. He soon appears, and in running to embrace the princess, oversets her tea table. The courtship between the two lovers is interrupted by *Perus* his rival, and a quarrel ensues, in which *Alexander*, who comes in hastily to part the combatants, receives a violent blow in the face from *Lyfimachus*, on which he orders him to be thrown into a lion's den; and upon *Clytus* interceding for mercy, the hot-brained King snatches a javelin from one of his guards, and stabs the old soldier, who dies singing an air adapted to the occasion.

When *Clytus* has sung himself to death, *Alexander* repents of his rash action, runs mad, and is carried off by his guards. These misfortunes however are obviated by the descent of *Jupiter*, attended by *Mercury*, who immediately comes from Olympus and restores *Clytus*, who revives to a comic tune. *Alexander* is supposed to recover from his distraction, and the king of the gods, after reconciling

cing matters between *Porus* and *Lyfimaebus*, whom he commands to put an end to their disputes by playing a rubber at back-gammon for the Princess *Parisatis*, concludes the piece by ascending to the celestial regions.

Such are the out-lines of this whimsical production, which in fact is beneath criticism, for nothing surely can equal this piece in its contemptible vulgarity; and we think the author of the celebrated *Lecture on Heads, &c.* might, by an exertion of that humour he is known to possess, have rendered a subject of this sort highly pleasing, without descending so very low. The music is admirably set by Mr. *Fisher*, a young gentleman little known as a composer, but whose excellent performance on the violin the world is sufficiently acquainted with. Had the merit and ingenuity of the poet been equal to the compo-

ser's of the music, this piece would have bid fair for affording the town a very pleasing amusement; as it is, it has justly sunk into the oblivion it merited,

The scene lies in *Bucephalon*, a city built by *Alexander* in honour of his horse.

HARLEQUIN'S JUBILEE.

A Pantomime.

This piece has also been brought out since the commencement of the year 1770, by Mr. *Woodward* the comedian, and seems calculated to rival the *Jubilee* at the other house; an attempt, in which we are afraid the managers of this theatre will not succeed, the town having already been sufficiently cloyed with representations of the *Stratford Jubilee*; nor do we think this entertainment intitled to any great degree of praise even as a pantomime.

ALPHABETICAL LIST Of Dramatic Pieces criticised in the THEATRICAL REGISTER.

COMEDIES.

ALCHYMIST

All in the Wrong

Amphitruon

As You Like It

Bold Stroke for a Wife

Busy Body

Brothers

Clandestine Marriage

Confederacy

Conscious Lovers

Country Girl

Country Lasses

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English Merchant

Every Man in His Humour

False Delicacy

Hypochrite

Jealous Wife

Inconstant

Love for Love

Love makes a Man

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* *This is called A Dramatic Romance, but being a musical drama, we have ranked it with the operas.*

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P O E T R Y.

An ODE * upon dedicating a BUILDING, and erecting a STATUE
to SHAKESPEARE, at STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.

By DAVID GARRICK, Esq.

TO what blest genius of the isle,
Shall Gratitude her tribute pay,
Decree the festive day,
Erect the statue, and devote the pile ?
Do not your sympathetic hearts accord,
To own the " bosom's lord ?"
'Tis he ! 'tis he !—that demi-god !
Who Avon's flow'ry margin trod,
While sportive *Fancy* round him flew,
Where *Nature* led him by the hand,
Instructed him in all she knew,
And gave him absolute command !
'Tis he ! 'tis he !
" The god of our idolatry !"
To him the song, the Edifice we raise,
He merits all our wonder, all our praise !
Yet ere impatient joy break forth,
In sounds that lift the soul from earth ;
And to our spell-bound minds impart
Some faint idea of his magic art ;
Let awful silence still the air !
From the dark cloud, the hidden light
Bursts tenfold bright !

* As the circumstance which occasioned the writing of this Ode has been much the subject of public conversation, and the Ode itself of public criticism, (in which last particular the author has been treated with great injustice) we think it a tribute due to merit, to collect such remarks together, by way of illustration, as have been written with candour and impartiality by those critics, who never sacrifice either their judgment or their veracity to folly and caprice, or the disingenuous suggestions of interest and private pique ; to which we have ventured to add some remarks of our own.

Prepare !

Prepare! prepare! prepare!
 Now swell at once the choral song,
 Roll the full tide of harmony along;
 Let Rapture sweep the trembling strings,
 And Fame expanding all her wings,
 With all her trumpet-tongues proclaim,
 The lov'd, rever'd, immortal name!
SHAKESPEARE! SHAKESPEARE! SHAKESPEARE! *

Let th'enchanting sound,
 From Avon's shores rebound;
 Thro' the air,
 Let it bear,
 The precious freight the envious nations round!

C H O R U S.

Swell the choral song,
 Roll the tide of harmony along,
 Let Rapture sweep the strings,
 Fame expand her wings,
 With her trumpet-tongues proclaim,
 The lov'd, rever'd, immortal name!
SHAKESPEARE! SHAKESPEARE! SHAKESPEARE!

A I R †.

I.

Sweetest bard that ever sung,
 Nature's glory, *Fancy's* child;
 Never sure did witching tongue,
 Warble forth such wood-notes wild †

II.

Come each *Muse*, and sister *Grace*,
 Loves and Pleasures, hither come;
 Well you know this happy place,
 Avon's banks were once your home.

* It has been well remarked, that the author has shewn great skill in avoiding the mention of Shakespeare's name till this verse, which is the 30th; yet every preceding line contributes to his being here named with advantage. "To what genius," says he, "shall Gratitude erect the temple and the statue? Does not the heart confess its lord! It is he who trod the flowery margin of the Avon, while Nature directed his path, and sportive *Fancy* in wanton circles flew round him; but before our joy breaks out in the fascinating strains of music, let silence for a moment hold us in awful suspense, then let Rapture sweep the strings, and fame with all her tongues pronounce SHAKESPEARE! SHAKESPEARE! SHAKESPEARE!"—The repetition of the name so long deferred, and the immediate joining in of other voices and music, must produce a happy effect; an effect he doubtless intended, and which could not fail to gratify his utmost hope.

† This air is very pleasing, and by no means unpoetical.

Bring

III.

Bring the laurel, bring the flow'rs,
Songs of triumph to him raise ;
He united all your pow'rs,
All uniting, sing his praise !

Tho' Philip's fam'd unconquer'd son,
Had ev'ry blood-stain'd laurel won ;
He sigh'd—that his creative word,
(Like that which rules the skies,)
Could not bid other nations rise,
To glut his yet unsated sword :

But when our SHAKESPEARE's matchless pen,
Like Alexander's sword, had done with men ;
He heav'd no sigh, he made no moan,
Not limited to human kind,
He fir'd his wonder-teeming mind,
Rais'd other worlds, and beings of his own ! *

A I R.

When Nature, smiling, hail'd his birth,
To him unbounded pow'r was given ;
The whirlwind's wing to sweep the sky,
“ The frenzy-rolling eye,
To glance from heav'n to earth,
From earth to heav'n ! ”

† O from his muse of fire
Could but one spark be caught,
Then might these humble strains aspire,
To tell the wonders he has wrought.

* In the prologue which Mr. Garrick spoke when he first became a patentee, and which was written by Dr. Samuel Johnson, are these words :

“ Each scene of many-colour'd life he drew,
Exhausted worlds and then imagin'd new,
Existence saw him scorn her bounded reign,
And panting Time toil'd after him in vain.”

This thought is happily adopted, and is in some measure made new by contrasting Shakespeare with Alexander.

† In this, and the following stanza, there is great ardour of imagination ; but the author was unwarily led by it to attribute to all the passions, what can be proper or true only with respect to some ; for the passions, which should have been exhibited on this occasion, are those which the poet excites, rather than those he represents.—Raging is a fit word to signify the excess of jealousy, hatred, or indignation, but not of pity, sorrow, or love, as these passions cannot with propriety be said to rage, much less
can

To tell,—how sitting on his magic throne,
 Unaided and alone,
 In dreadful state,
 The subject passions round him wait;
 Who tho' unchain'd, and raging there,
 He checks, inflames, or turns their mad career;
 With that superior skill,
 Which winds the fiery steed at will,
 He gives the awful word—
 And they, all foaming, trembling, own him for their lord.
 With these his slaves he can controul,
 Or charm the soul;
 So realiz'd are all his golden dreams,
 Of terror, pity, love, and grief,
 Tho' conscious that the vision only seems,
 The woe-struck mind finds no relief:
 Ingratitude would drop the tear,
 Cold-blooded age take fire,
 To see the thankless children of old *Lear*,
 Spurn at their king and fire!
 With *his* our reason too grows wild!
 What nature had disjoin'd,
 The poet's pow'r combin'd,
Madness and age, ingratitude and child.
 Ye guilty, lawless tribe,
 Escap'd from punishment, by art or bribe,
 At *Shakespeare's* bar appear!
 No bribing, shuffling there—
 His genius, like a rushing flood,
 Cannot be withstood,
 Out bursts the penitential tear!

can they with propriety be said to foam. The passions which Shakespeare commands are principally terror and pity, and these should not have been confounded by an indiscriminate imputation of the same attributes. —This ardour has also betrayed him into the impropriety of giving the epithet of golden to the dreams of terror as well as those of love, and representing the mind as woe-struck by the golden dream of love, as well as by the golden dream of grief. Perhaps, however, the epithet golden, might be used to express the excellence of Shakespeare's fictions, and not their species. It may also be remarked, that there is no proper opposition between the words controul and charm. To charm is to controul by power more than natural; it is also to delight; but taken in that sense, the mind that is charmed is controuled by the power of the charmer, and the soul that is delighted in this verse, is woe-struck in the next but three. However, candour will in some measure excuse these oversights, when we reflect, that an imagination heated to any great degree of enthusiasm, is not always at leisure to attend to strict propriety.

The

The look appall'd, the crime reveals,
The marble-hearted monster feels,
Whose hand is stain'd with blood.

S E M I - C H O R U S.

When law is weak, and justice fails,
The poet holds the sword and scales.

A I R *.

Though crimes from death and torture fly,
The swifter muse,
Their flight pursues,
Guilty mortals more than die!
They live indeed, but live to feel.
The scourge and wheel,
"On the torture of the mind they lie;"
Should harass'd nature sink to rest,
The poet wakes the scorpion in the breast,
Guilty mortals more than die!

When our *Magician* †, more inspir'd,
By charms, and spells, and incantations fir'd,
Exerts his most tremendous pow'r;
The thunder growls, the heavens low'r,
And to his darken'd throne repair,
The *Demons* of the deep, and *Spirits* of the air!

But soon these horrors pass away,
Thro' storms and night breaks forth the day:
He smiles ‡, they vanish into air!
The buskin's warriors disappear!
Mute the trumpets, mute the drums,
The scene is chang'd—*Thalia* comes,
Leading the nymph *Euphrosyne*,
Goddeß of joy and liberty!
She and her sisters, hand in hand,
Link'd to a num'rous frolick band,

* *This air is happily imagined, and is very poetical, especially the thought in the fourth verse, which is repeated in the last.*

† *Shakespeare is here represented as a magician, fired by charms, spells, and incantations; but there is some incongruity in the image; a magician is not the subject of charms, spells, and incantations, but the agent that employs them.*

‡ *The sudden transition to joy and pleasurable ideas in this stanza from the preceding one, in which those of a tremendous and terrific nature are represented, is very happily imagined, and shews great strength of fancy; and how pleasingly does he exhibit the comic powers of Shakespeare!*

With

With roses and with myrtle crown'd
O'er the green velvet lightly bound,
Circling the Monarch of th' enchanted land !

A I R.

I.

Wild, frantic with pleasure,
They trip it in measure,
To bring their treasure,
The treasure of joy.

II.

How gay is the measure,
How sweet is the pleasure,
How great is the treasure,
The treasure of joy.

III.

Like roses fresh blowing,
Their dimpled cheeks glowing,
His mind is o'erflowing ;
A treasure of joy.

IV.

His rapture perceiving,
They smile while they're giving,
He smiles at receiving,
A treasure of joy.

* With kindling cheeks, and sparkling eyes,
Surrounded thus, the bard in transport dies ;
The little *Loves*, like bees,
Clust'ring and climbing up his knees,
His brows with roses bind ;
While, *Fancy*, *Wit*, and *Humour* spread
Their wings, and hover round his head,
Impregnating his mind.
Which teeming soon, as soon brought forth,
Not a tiny spurious birth,
But out a mountain came,
A mountain of delight !
LAUGHTER roar'd out to see the sight,
And FALSTAFF was his name !

* *This representation of the birth of Falstaff from the brain of Shakespeare, his calling him first a mountain, as a contrast to the mouse which a mountain was said to bring forth, and then a world, and his illustration, by observing, that Falstaff and the world are both of them round and wicked, would do honour to any imagination, and is an instance in which he has almost rivalled the humour of the great master he celebrates.*

With

With sword and shield he, puffing, strides ;
 The joyous revel-rout
 Receive him with a shout,
 And modest *Nature* holds her sides :
 No single pow'r the deed had done,
 But great and small,
Wit, Fancy, Humour, Whim, and Jest,
 The huge mishapen heap impress'd ;
 And lo—*SIR JOHN* !
 A compound of 'em all,
 A comic world in one.

A I R.

A world where all pleasures abound,
 So fruitful the earth,
 So quick to bring forth,
 And the world too is wicked and round.

As the well teeming earth,
 With rivers and show'rs,
 Will smiling bring forth
 Her fruits and her flow'rs ;
 So *FALSTAFF* will never decline ;
 Still fruitful and gay,
 He moistens his clay,
 And his rain and his rivers are wine ;
 Of the world he has all, but its care ;
 No load, but of flesh, will he bear ;
 He laughs off his pack,
 Takes a cup of old sack,
 And away with all sorrow and care.

Like the rich rainbow's various dyes,
 Whose circle sweeps o'er earth and skies,
 The heav'n-born muse appears ;
 Now in the brightest colours gay,
 Now quench'd in show'rs, she fades away,
 Now blends her smiles and tears.

Sweet *Swan of Avon* ! ever may thy stream
 Of tuneful numbers be the darling theme ;
 Not *Thames* himself, who in his silver course
 Triumphant rolls along,
 Britannia's riches and her force,
 Shall more harmonious flow in song.

O had those bards, who charm the list'ning shore
 Of Cam and Isis, tun'd their classic lays,
 And from their full and precious store,
 Vouchsaf'd to fairy-haunted *Avon* praise !

R

(Like

(Like that kind bounteous hand *,
Which lately gave the ravish'd eyes
Of Stratford swains
A rich command,
Of widen'd river, lengthen'd plains,
And opening skies)
Nor *Greek*, nor *Roman* streams would flow along,
More sweetly clear, or more sublimely strong,
Nor thus a sheperd's feeble notes reveal,
At once the weakest numbers, and the warmest zeal.

A I R.

I.

Thou soft-flowing *Avon*, by thy silver stream,
Of things more than mortal, sweet *Shakespeare* would dream,
The fairies by moon-light dance round his green bed,
For hallow'd the turf is which pillow'd his head †.

II.

The love-stricken maiden, the soft-fighting swain,
Here rove without danger, and sigh without pain,
The sweet bud of beauty, no blight shall here dread,
For hallow'd the turf is which pillow'd his head.

III.

Here youth shall be fam'd, for their love and their truth,
And cheerful old age, feel the spirit of youth ;
For the raptures of fancy here poets shall tread,
For hallow'd the turf is that pillow'd his head.

IV.

Flow on, silver *Avon*, in song ever flow,
Be the swans on thy bosom still whiter than snow ;
Ever full be thy stream, like his fame may it spread,
And the turf ever hallow'd which pillow'd his head.

Tho' bards with envy-aching eyes,
Behold a tow'ring eagle rise,
And would his flight retard ;
Yet each to *Shakespeare's* genius bows,
Each weaves a garland for his brows,
To crown the heav'n-distinguish'd bard.
Nature had form'd him on her noblest plan,
And to the genius joined the feeling man ‡.

* The D— of D—, with the concurrence of Mr. B—y most generously ordered a great number of trees to be cut down, to open the river *Avon* for the Jubilee.

† The thought contained in this line is well imagined, and it is happily continued at the end of each stanza.

‡ The dignity of this verse is worthy the pen of any writer,

What tho' with more than mortal art,
 Like *Neptune* he directs the storm,
 Lets loose like winds the passions of the heart,
 To wreck the human form;
 Tho' from his mind rush forth the demons to destroy,
 His heart ne'er knew but love, and gentleness, and joy *.

A I R.

More gentle than the southern gale,
 Which softly fans the blossom'd vale,
 And gathers on its balmy wing,
 The fragrant treasures of the spring,
 Breathing delight on all it meets.
 "And giving, as it steals, the sweets."

Look down, blest SPIRIT, from above,
 With all thy wonted gentleness and love;
 And as the wonders of thy pen,
 By heav'n inspir'd,
 To virtue fir'd,
 The charm'd, astonish'd, sons of men!
 With no reproach, even now thou view'st thy work,
 To nature sacred as to truth,
 Where no alluring mischiefs lurk,
 To taint the mind of youth.
 Still to thy native spot thy smiles extend,
 And as thou gav'st it fame, that fame defend;
 And may no sacrilegious hand
 Near *Avon's* banks be found,
 To dare to parcel out the land,
 And limit Shakespeare's hallow'd ground †
 For ages free, still be it unconfin'd,
 As broad, and general, as thy boundless mind.
 Can *British* gratitude delay,
 To him the glory of this isle,
 To give the festive day
 The song, the statue and devoted pile?
 To him the first of poets, best of men?
 "We ne'er shall look upon his like again †!"

* This verse is truly poetical, and is finely contrasted to that above it.

† This alludes to a design of inclosing a large common field at Stratford.

‡ This verse is very happily introduced, and is almost unnecessary for us to inform the reader, that it is taken from what Hamlet says of his father. Act 1. Scene 2.

D U E T T.

Shall the hero laurels gain,
 For ravag'd fields, and thousands slain ?,
 And shall his brows no laurels bind,
 Who charms to virtue human kind ?

C H O R U S.

We will,—his brows with laurel bind,
 Who charms to virtue human kind :
 Raise the pile, the statue raise,
 Sing immortal *Shakespeare's* praise !
 The song will cease, the stone decay,
 But his name,
 And undiminished fame,
 Shall never, never pass away *.

* Part of this Ode was set to music, the other part, which in performances of the same kind has generally been pronounced in what is called *Recitative*, was spoken by Mr. *Garrick*, which, as may easily be imagined, produced a very great effect, so that what has usually been insipid and tiresome, became the principal part of the entertainment ; and it is unanimously agreed by all who heard him deliver it at *Stratford upon-Avon*, that his elocution was never heard with more pleasure, or felt with more force and energy. It must be confessed, that, as a literary performance, it is not wholly exempt from inaccuracies ; but these seem to owe their rise to the ardour of his imagination, and it must be acknowledged, there is merit even in the ardour that produced them. Notwithstanding what has been said, this Ode contains many very great strokes of invention, and many beautiful specimens of true poetry.

Mr. *Garrick* is known to be peculiarly happy in catching and improving hints from local and temporary circumstances, and perhaps, this very Ode is the greatest example of this rare felicity that he ever gave ; so that taking it for all in all, it may be the best that could possibly have been produced upon the occasion ; and the advantage of speaking his own composition, much more than counterbalanced any superiority in correctness or beauty that might have been found in the composition of another. And it has been well observed by a very judicious critic, speaking of this Ode, that a man of the greatest poetical abilities, nay a first rate genius, lies under an astonishing disadvantage when he writes upon compulsion, which was the case here, for it appears by an advertisement prefixed to the Ode, that it is to be considered as an act of duty, he having failed in his endeavours to persuade others to undertake it.

To this Ode are added some testimonies of great authority, both in prose and verse, to justify the general admiration of *Shakespeare*.
 Among

The TRIUMPH of the ARTS. An ODE.

By the Rev. Dr. FRANKLIN.

Written on the Institution of the ROYAL ACADEMY, Jan. 1, 1769.

W HEN Discord late her baleful influence shed,
 O'er the fair realms of Science and of Art,
 Neglected Genius bent his drooping head,
 And pierc'd with anguish ev'ry tuneful heart ;

Among other respectable names, are those of Ben. Johnson, Milton, Dryden, Pope, Thomson, Addison, Warburton, Wharton, Voltaire, Gray, Maſon, the celebrated author of the Rambler, &c. &c.

The music of the ſongs, chorusses, &c. was composed by Dr. Arne, and it would be doing great injustice to its ſingular merit to paſs it over in ſilence, eſpecially as we have been favoured with ſome remarks for this work by one of the beſt critics in muſical compoſition this nation ever produced.

The air beginning, *When Nature ſmiling*, &c. is delicately ſmooth, pleaſing, and natural ; and where it breaks into the ſecond movement, which is very rapid, with the words, *The whirlwind wing*, the con- traſt is great indeed and finely imagined, as well as executed with an amazing attention to the propriety of the words, and the effects intended to be produced. The ſolemnity of expreſſing, *When the law is weak*, &c. In a chorus, is finely planned, and there is great merit in the thought, as well as great ſkill in the conduct of it. The ſong, *Tho' crimes from death and torture free*, &c. is very happily imagined, and the latter part is a fine conſtrast to the firſt. *Should barraſ'd Nature ſink to reſt*, &c. Theſe words are inimitably expreſſed, the muſic here is adapted with ſuch propriety, that it ſeems impoſſible to have carried the power of imitation to a greater degree of perfection. The air, *Wild frantic with pleaſure*, &c. is beautifully ſet, and indeed the muſic itſelf expreſſes the ſubject of the words almoſt without their being mentioned. The ſong, *A world where all pleaſures abound*, &c. has nothing very ſtriking in it till the ſecond part, *So Falſtaff will never decline*, &c. and when it breaks forth into great jollity, and the comic humour intended to be expreſſed is well ſupported. *Thou ſoft flowing Avon*, &c. is finely ſet, and admirably calculated to expreſs the intention of the poet ; in ſhort, it raiſes an idea of the picture of reſt, *For hallow'd the turf is which pillow'd his head*. *More gentle than the ſummer's gale*, is an inimitable air, the gliding ſmoothneſs of the muſic conveys the ſub- ject of the words very beautifully. Many of the ſongs terminated in chorusses, which frequently heightened and animated the expreſſion.

We have remarked before on the Ode itſelf, that ſcarcely any man but Mr. Garrick could have produced ſo good a one on the occaſion ; and we ſhall cloſe this article by obſerving, that we think it is pretty certain no one but Dr. Arne could have ſet it to muſic with ſo great a degree of judgment and ſkill.

Apollo wept his broken lyre,
 Wept to behold the mournful choir
 Of his lov'd Muses, now an exil'd train,
 And in their seats to see Alecto reign.

When lo! Britannia, to the throne
 Of goodness makes her sorrows known;
 For never there did grief complain,
 Or injur'd merit plead in vain
 The monarch heard her just request,
 He saw, he felt, and he redress'd:
 Quick with a master-hand he tunes the strings,
 And harmony from discord springs.

Thus good, by Heaven's command from evil flows,
 From Chaos thus of old creation rose;
 When order with confusion join'd,
 And jarring elements combin'd,
 To grace with mutual strength the great design,
 And speak the architect divine.

While Eastern tyrants in the trophied car,
 Wave the red banner of destructive war,
 In George's breast a nobler flame
 Is kindled, and a fairer fame
 Excites, to cherish native worth,
 To call the latent seeds of genius forth,
 To bid discordant factions cease,
 And cultivate the gentle arts of peace.

And lo! from this auspicious day,
 The Sun of Science beams a purer ray;
 Behold! a brighter train of years,
 A new Augustan age appears;
 The time, not distant far, shall come,
 When England's tasteful youth no more
 Shall wander to Italia's Classic shore;
 No more to foreign climes shall roam,
 In search of models better found at home.

With rapture the prophetic muse
 Her country's opening glory views,
 Already sees with wond'ring eyes,
 Our Titians and our Guidos rise;
 Sees new Palladios grace th'historic page,
 And British Raphaels charm a future age.
 Mean time, ye sons of Art, your off'rings bring,
 To grace your Patron and your King,
 Bid Sculpture grave his honour'd name
 In marble, lasting as his fame:

Bid

Bid Painting's magic pencil trace
The features of his darling race,
And as it flows thro' all the royal line,
Glow with superior warmth and energy divine.

If tow'ring Architecture still
Can boast her old creative skill,
Bid some majestic structure rise to view,
Worthy him, and worthy you;
Where art may join with nature and with sense,
Splendor with taste, with taste magnificence,
Where strength may be with elegance combin'd,
The perfect image of its master's mind.

And, O! if with the tuneful throng
The muse may dare to mix her humble song:
In your glad train permit her to appear,
Tho' poor, yet willing, and tho' rude, sincere,
To praise the Sov'reign whom her heart approves,
And pay this tribute to the arts she loves.

P R O L O G U E *

To the Comedy of the SCHOOL FOR RAKES.

Spoken by Mr. KING.

THE scribbling gentry, ever frank and free,
To sweep the stage with prologues fix on *Me*.
A Female representative I come,
And with a Prologue, which I call a Broom,
To sweep the critic cobwebs from the room. }
Critics, like spiders, into corners creep,
And at new plays their bloody revels keep;
With some small venom close in ambush lie,
Ready to seize the poor dramatic *Fly*:
The weak and heedless soon become their prey, }
But the strong *Blue Bottle* will force its way,
Clean well its wings, and hum another day.
Unknown to nature's laws, we've here one evil,
For *Flies* turn'd *Spiders*, play the very devil!
‘ Fearing some danger, I will lay before ye,
‘ A short, true, recent, tragi-comic story.
‘ As late I saunter'd in the Park for air,
‘ As free from thought, as any coxcomb there;

* This is not the original prologue spoken at first, but the above is what was made use of after the play had been represented a few nights.

‘ Two sparks came up, one whisper’d in my ear
 ‘ He was a critic, then ask’d me with a sneer—
 ‘ Thus standing—staring—with a swaggering swing,
 ‘ *You’ve writ a Farce?*—Yes, sir, a foolish thing.
 ‘ *Damn’d foolish!*—you’d better mind your acting, King.
 ‘ ‘Tis ten to one—I speak it for your sake,
 ‘ *That this same Farce will prove—YOUR WIT’S LAST STAKE.*
 ‘ I scribble for amusement—boast no pow’rs;
 ‘ *Right, for your own amusement—not for ours.*
 ‘ Thus he went on, and with his pleasant talking,
 ‘ I lost the appetite, I got with walking;—
 ‘ He laugh’d—I bow’d—but ere I could retreat,
 ‘ His litping friend did thus the dose repeat:—
 ‘ *Pray, sir—this School for Rakes—the Woman’s Play—*
 ‘ *When do you give it us?*—next Saturday.—
 ‘ I hope you’ll both be kind to *her* at least;—
 ‘ *A scribbling Woman is a dreadful Beast!*
 ‘ *Then they’re so ugly, all these Female Wits;—*
 ‘ *I’ll damn her Play—to throw her into fits:*
 ‘ *Had I my will—these slattern sluttish Dames,*
 ‘ *They all should see the bottom of the Thames.*
 ‘ If you are here*, good sirs, to breed a riot,
 ‘ Don’t shew your spite—for if you are not quiet,
 ‘ ‘Tis ten to one—I speak it for *your* sake,
 ‘ *This School for Rakes—will prove YOUR Wits last Stake,*
 ‘ As † you save me from their tyrannic will,
 ‘ You will not let them use a Woman ill!
 ‘ Protect her, and her brat. The truly brave!
 ‘ Women and Children, will for ever save.’

E P I L O G U E,

Written by the Author of the PROLOGUE,

And Spoken by Mrs. CLIVE.

I Long to know, dread sirs, with due submission,
 How you approve me as a *Politician*?
 The thought was mine.—I told the scribbling Dame,
 This part of Winifred is much too tame;
 Ask but the town, said I, they’ll all agree,
 That a *tame* character will not suit *me*:
 I hate such lifeless, water-gruel stuff;
 Quicken her well, with politics and snuff;
 Small quantities of both will be but teizing;
 Give them enough, and set the town a sneezing.

* *Looking about the House.*† *The Pit.*

Her scribbling vanity at this was stung;
 Would have disputed—Hold, says I, you're wrong,
 Don't be so rash, to draw on *me*, your tongue;
I have a weapon, should I take the field,
A better, never did a woman wield;
 You'll find, when once my passion is afloat,
 The soul of *Cæsar* in a petticoat!
 "Aye, but," says she, "in politics there's danger,
 "To courts, and state affairs, I'm quite a stranger."
 So much the better, thou most simple woman,
 Blunders, in politics, are not uncommon.
 When you mistake, the town will think you clever,
 Think that you mean great folks, and clap for ever;
Old England, like a boy, loves wicked fun,
 Abuse your betters, and your work is done.
 Small game the English spirit will not follow,
 'Tis at the nobler chase, you whoop, and hollow!
 O'er hedge, and ditch, you helter skelter fly,
 Start but a *Statesman*—Yoax! the hounds full cry!
 To pick up tesser game, you will not stay,
 While the *fox* runs, the *bare* may steal away;
 Our auth'ress is the *bare*—who trembling sits,
 'Till she escapes this dreadful *pack of wits*;
 She hopes you will not hunt her, she's so small,
 But *bark* to mercy, as the noblest call.

P R O L O G U E to the S I S T E R.

Written by Mr. C O L M A N.

Spoken by Mrs. M A T T O C K S.

TH E law of custom is the law of fools—
 And yet the wife are govern'd by her rules;
 Why should men only prologue all our plays,
 Gentleman-ushers to each modern Bays?
 Why are the fair to epilogues confin'd,
 Whose tongues are loud, and gen'ral as the wind?
 Mark how in real life each sex is class'd!
 Woman has there the first word, and the last.
 Boast not your gallant deeds, romantic men!
 To night a female Quixote draws the pen.
 Arm'd by the Comic Muse, these lists she enters,
 And sallies forth—in quest of strange adventures!
 War, open war, 'gainst recreant knights declares,
 Nor giant vice, nor windmill folly spares:
 Side-saddles Pegasus, and courts Apollo,
 While I, (you see!) her female Sancho, follow.
 Ye that in this enchanted castle sit,
 Dames, Squires, and dark Magicians of the Pit,

Smile

Smile on our fair Knight-errantry to-day,
And raise no spells to blast a female play!

Oft has our author, upon other ground,
Court'd your smiles, and oft indulgence found:
Read in the closet you approv'd her page,
Yet still she dreads the perils of the stage.
Reader with writer due proportion keeps,
And if the poet nods, the critic sleeps!
If lethargied by dullness here you sit,
Sonorous cat-calls rouse the sleeping pit.

Plac'd at the threshold of the weather-house,
There stands a pasteboard husband and his spouse,
Each doom'd to mark the changes of the weather,
But still—true man and wife!—ne'er seen together,
When low'ring clouds the face of heav'n deform,
The muffled husband stands and braves the storm;
But when the fury of the tempest's done,
Break out at once the lady and the sun.
Thus oft has man, in custom's beaten track,
Come forth, as doleful prologue, all in black,
Gloomy prognostic of the bard's disgrace,
With omens of foul weather in his face.
Trick'd out in silk and smiles let me appear,
And fix, as sign of peace, the rainbow here;
Raise your compassion and your mirth together,
And prove to-day an emblem of fair weather!

E P I L O G U E.

Written by Dr. GOLDSMITH.

Spoken by Mrs. BULKLEY.

WHAT five long acts—and all to make us wiser!
Our authoress sure has wanted an adviser.

Had she consulted me, she would have made
Her moral play a speaking masquerade,
Warm'd up each bustling scene, and in her rage
Have emptied all the green-room on the stage.
My life on't, this had kept her play from sinking,
Have pleas'd our eyes, and sav'd the pain of thinking.
Well, since she thus has shewn her want of skill,
What if I give a masquerade! I will.

But how? Ay, there's the rub! (*pausing*) I've got my cue,
The world's a masquerade! the masquers, you, you, you.

[*To boxes, pit, gall.*]

Lud! what a groupe the motley scene discloses!
False wits, false wives, false virgins, and false spouses:
Statesmen with bridles on, and close beside 'em,
Patriots, in party-colour'd suits that ride 'em.

There

There Hebes, turn'd of fifty, try once more,
 To raile a flame in Cupids of threescore.
 These, in their turn, with appetites as keen,
 Deserting fifty, fasten on fifteen.
 Miss, not yet full fifteen, with fire uncommon,
 Flings down her sampler, and takes up the woman:
 The little urchin smiles, and spreads her lure,
 And tries to kill ere she's got power to cure.
 Thus 'tis with all—Their chief and constant care
 Is to seem ev'ry thing—but what they are.
 Yon broad, bold, angry spark, I fix my eye on,
 Who seems to have robb'd his vizor from the lion,
 Who frowns, and talks, and swears, with round parade,
 Looking, as who should say, " Damme! who's afraid!" [*mimicking*]
 Strip but his vizor off, and sure I am
 You'll find his lionship a very lamb.
 Yon politician, famous in d-bate,
 Perhaps to vulgar eyes bestrides the state,
 Yet when he deigns his real shape t' assume,
 He turns old woman, and bestrides a broom.
 Yon patriot too, who presses on your fight,
 And seems to ev'ry gazer all in white,
 If with a bribe his candour you attack,
 He bows, turns round, and whip—the man is black!
 Yon critic too—but whither do I run?
 If I proceed, our bard will be undone!
 Well then, a truce, since she requests it too;
 Do you spare her, and I'll for once spare you.

P R O L O G U E

To the FATAL DISCOVERY.

Spoken by Mr. BARRY.

WHEN first the children of the Muse began
 To try their magic on the mind of man,
 Astonish'd mortals saw, with wond'ring eyes,
 The fair creation of the bard arise.

Hence is deriv'd the poet's lofty name,
 For poet and creator mean the same;
 He, from his fancy, where the seeds of things
 As in the chaos lie, to order brings
 Worlds of his own, and builds the lofty rhyme
 Whose polish'd strength defies the rage of time.

Such were the bards, whom we too call divine;
 Homer, the father of the god-like line.
 The Mantuan Bard, whom all mankind admire,
 For sweet expression and for vestal fire.

Shakespeare

Shakespeare and Milton, both in England born,
Whose glorious names the Queen of Isles adorn,
Who, proudly sitting on her azure throne,
In arts and empire will no equal own.

Thus far our author as a prologue writ,
And would have been, I think, a-writing yet,
Enamour'd of his theme.—But I drew near
And whisper'd that of him you wish'd to hear.

'Twas difficult he said—in such a case.
He could have wish'd another in his place ;
To tell with what alternate hopes and fears,
An anxious author on the stage appears ;
For, like the nightingale, he hath address'd
Himself 'to sing, a thorn at his fond breast.
If, like the native warbler of the grove,
His plaintive notes are full of tender love ;
Your hand may pull the thorn that caus'd his pain,
And give him spirit for a nobler strain.

E P I L O G U E.

Written by Mr. GARRICK.

Spoken by Mrs. A B I N G T O N.

[*Enters in a Hurry.*]

FORGIVE my coming thus, our griefs to utter—
I'm such a figure '—and in such a flutter—
So circumstanc'd, in such an awkward way,
I know not what to do, or what to say.

Our Bard, a strange unfashionable creature,
As obstinate, as savage in his nature
Will have no epilogue!—I told the brute—
If, Sir, these trifles don't *your* genius suit ;
We have a working prologue-smith within,
Will strike one off, as if it were a pin.

Nay, epilogues are pins—whose points, well plac'd,
Will trick your muse out, in the tip-top taste !

“ Pins, Madam ! (frown'd the Bard) the Greeks us'd none
“ (Then muttering Greek—something like this,—went on)
“ *Pinnos, Painton, Patcheros, non Græco Modon.*”

I coax'd, he swore—“ That tie him to a stake,
“ He'd suffer all for decency's fair sake ;
“ No bribery should make him change his plan.”

There's an old mortal. Match him if you can.

Hah, Sir ! (said I) your reasoning is not deep,
For when at tragedies spectators weep,

** They oft, like children, cry themselves asleep.*

** Like harmless infants, mourn themselves asleep.*

ALEX.

And

And if no joggling epilogue you write,
 Pit, box, and gallery, may sleep all night :
 “ Better (he swore)—a nap should overtake ye,
 “ Than folly should to folly’s pranks awake ye ;
 “ Rakes are more harmless nodding upon benches,
 “ Than ogling to ensnare poor simple wenches ;
 “ And simple girls had better close their eyes,
 “ Then send ’em gadding after butterflies :
 “ Nay, should a statesman make a box his nest ;
 “ Who, that his country loves, would break his rest ?
 “ Let come what may, I will not make ’em laugh,
 “ Take for an epilogue—’This epitaph,
 “ For as my lovers lives I would not save,
 “ No pois’nous weeds shall root upon their grave.”
 ’Tis thus these pedant Greek-read poets vapour—
 Is it your pleasure I should read the paper ?

*Here in the arms of death, a matchless pair,
 A young lov’d hero, and beloved fair,
 Now find repose—Their virtues tempest tost,
 Sea-sick, and weary, reach the wish’d for coast.
 Whatever mortal to the spot is brought,
 O may the living by the dead be taught !
 May here ambition learn to clip her wing,
 And jealousy to blunt her deadly sting ;
 Then shall the poet every wish obtain,
 Nor Roman and Rivine die in vain.*

MR. REDDISH’S OCCASIONAL PROLOGUE, *spoken at his benefit to a numerous and polite audience, with universal applause.*

TO sing or say, to warble or to speak,
 In English, French, the Latin, or the Greek ;
 The Idioms four, in which the drama shines,
 Whose well-wrought tales the human heart refines,
 Thro’ channels two its various power conveys
 In well-turn’d periods, or in well-sung lays ;
 Between the two you’ll see a precious tether,
 My bold attempt to drag ’em here together —
 And bold, indeed, methinks I hear you say,
 Sure he must be so strange a part to play !
 From sage Orellon, in his dark abode,
 To wish to please in so absurd a road,
 Why different talents means he to confound,
 And turn a renegade from sense to sound ?
 How cou’d such folly get into his pate !
 Patience, good Sirs, the motive I’ll relate.—
 When the state coffer’s empty, wane of treasure,
 The next thing to contrive is a new measure,

For

For exigencies of th' ensuing year,
 Or to exonerate from all arrear.
 Thus politicians act—E'en such *my* plan,
 By novelty t'entice you if I can.
 However I may execute the part,
 Accept the tribute of a grateful heart!—
 Here your good-nature sits as judge o'er all,
 Exalts our merits, lets our failings fall:
 Your clemency I court with pray'r most fervent,
 Be merciful, and spare—your humble servant!

E P I L O G U E.

Spoken by Mrs. CLIVE, on quitting the Stage.

Written by Mr. WALPOLE.

WITH glory satiate, from the bustling stage,
 Still in his prime—and much about my age,
 Imperial Charles (if Robertson says true)
 Retiring, bid the jarring world adieu!
 Thus I, long honour'd with your partial praise,
 (A debt my swelling heart with tears repays!
 —Scarce can I speak—forgive the grateful pause)
 Resign the noblest triumph, your applause.
 Content with humble means, yet proud to own
 I owe my pittance to your smiles alone,
 To private shades I bear the glorious prize,
 The meed of favour in a nation's eyes;
 A nation brave, and sensible, and free—
 Poor Charles! how little, when compar'd to me!
 His mad ambition had disturb'd the globe,
 And sanguine which he quitted was the robe.
 Too blest, cou'd he have dar'd to tell mankind,
 When pow'r's full goblet he forbore to quaff,
 That, conscious of benevolence of mind,
 For thirty years he had but made them laugh.
 Ill was that mind with sweet retirement pleas'd,
 The very cloister that he sought he teaz'd;
 And sick at once, both of himself and peace,
 He dy'd a martyr to unwelcome ease.
 Here ends the parallel—my generous friends,
 My exit no such tragic fate attends;
 I will not die—let no vain panic seize you—
 If I repent,—I'll come again and please you.

ODE.

ODE, performed at the Castle of Dublin, on Thursday the 23d of February, 1769, being the day appointed for celebrating the Birth-day of her most Excellent and Sacred MAJESTY QUEEN CHARLOTTE.

By the special Command of his Excellency George, Lord Viscount Townshend, Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.

The Music composed by Richard Hay, Esq; Chief Composer and Master of the Music attending his Majesty's State in Ireland, and Master of the Royal Family's Chamber Concert.

R E C I T A T I V E.

FAIREST of the tuneful Nine,
 Inspirer of the poet's song;
 O, bless me with a ray divine:
 To you the sweetest notes belong.
 Aid me with elegance of stile,
 Flowing like Parnassian stream;
 The Queen of great Hibernia's isle,
 Is now my pleasing lofty theme.

A I R.

Adorn'd with ev'ry charm and grace,
 She lives belov'd and blest to reign;
 Triumphant in her blooming race:
 With ev'ry virtue in her train.

R E C I T A T I V E.

Transcendant blessings to our Queen belong,
 Humble tho' great, and gravely wise tho' young.

A I R.

With politeness gently grac'd,
 And with elegance of taste;
 Yet from courtly foibles free:
 Adorn'd with native modesty.
 As years roll on, yet still we find,
 Some new perfections in her mind!
 A rich inestimable store,
 Of virtues unperceiv'd before.

R E C I T A T I V E.

All that is charming of the softest kind,
 With nervous sense and resolution join'd;
 A mein compos'd of mildness and of state,
 Not by constraint or affectation great.

A I R.

Whose wide affections can embrace,
 The sorrows of the human race;
 When torn with grief or stung with care:
 In others bliss can bear a part,

And

P O E T R Y.

And in life's brightest hour can share
Each pang that wrings another's heart.

D U E T.

Ye guardian powers, when such you see,
Sweet peace be theirs, from sorrow free.
Blest by their sky, with genial showers,
Green be their turf, and fresh the flowers.

C H O R U S.

Thus may the years move on serene,
Thus ever blest be Britain's QUEEN.

E P I L O G U E

Spoken by Mr. HAVARD, upon his leaving the STAGE.

BATTER'D with war in many an hard campaign,
Tho' the maim'd soldier quits the martial plain,
Fancy restores him to the battle's rage,
And temporary youth inflames his age;
Again he fights the foe, counts o'er his scars!
—Tho' Chelsea's now the seat of all his wars—
And, fondly hanging on the lengthen'd tale,
Re-flays his thousands—o'er a pot of ale.
So I—(long since accusom'd to engage,
In all the noisy bustle of the stage)
Have been employed in every post of state,
And seen the revolutions of the great;
Seen patriot Quin with falling Rome expire—
And Alexander—set the world on fire!
Heard plaintive Cibber dignify distress,
And well-earn'd plaudits Pritchard's pow'rs confess:
Have heard the theatre's incessant roar,
When comic Clive Thalia's Standard bore:
Myself, unworthy, made a little stand,
Where Gen'ral Garrick holds the first command;
My humble merits did his choice approve—
I was his friend in war—his friend in love;
And now—as in the various scenes we've past—
He proves his friendship to me to the last:
For now, alas! infirmity denies
A longer stay—and sage Discretion cries,
“Retire, retire—unable now to please,
“Enjoy your Chelsea pittance and your ease.”
But oh! my heart! how warmly dost thou beat,
To those who give that pittance—that retreat!
No studied phrase of gratitude can pay—
—'Tis extasy of thanks!—'tis more than I can say!
The want of words the full-fraught mind reveals,
And the tongue falters when the heart most feels!

ASHTED

A S H T E D C O T*.

TIR'D with the noise and smoke of town,
 Its crowded streets and sumptuous fare,
 To ASHTED Cot we oft steal down :
 Who wish for *Peace* may find her there.

There stretch the ample prospects wide,
 Fields, woods, down, hills, and spires appear,
 The tempting walk, the grateful ride,
 Invite thro' all the varied year.

Or there, or no where can be found,
Health, ever rosy, ever gay,
Content there tills his narrow ground,
 And sings the toils of life away.

No foreign dainties glitter there ;
 Yet rural plenty there is known ;
 The home rear'd poultry's oft your fare,
 And mutton fed on *Bansted* Down.

The garden, hemm'd in little space,
 Is glad its herbs and fruits to send :
 Ne'er is forgot the thankful grace,
 Nor wine to toast the absent friend.

Nor *Party*'s voice, nor *Faction*'s roar,
 Their baleful influence there have shed ;
Ill-nature never op'd the door,
 Nor *Spleen* once dar'd to shew her head.

Yet books their moral store display,
 And social wit and chat go round,
 The *Muse* there tunes her rustic lay,
 And *Leisure* loves th' enchanted ground.

Tho' *Pride* on humble scenes looks down,
 And longs in pomp to pass the hours,
 There are, who gladly quit the town,
 For tranquil joys in ASHTED bow'rs.

O D E for His M A J E S T Y's Birth-Day, June 4, 1769.

P A T R O N of Arts at length by thee
 Their home is fix'd : thy kind decree
 Has plac'd their empire here.

* A villa belonging to T—— T——, Esq. Ashsted is a small vil-
 lage betwixt Epston and Leatherhead, in Surry.

No more, unheeded, shall they waste
 Their treasures on the fickle taste,
 Of each fantastic year.
 Judgment shall frame each chaste design,
 Nor e'er from truth's unerring line,
 The sportive artist roam :
 Whether the breathing bust he forms,
 With nature's tints the canvas warms,
 Or swells, like heav'n's high arch, th' imperial dome:
 Fancy, the wand'rer, shall be taught,
 To own severer laws :
 Spite of her wily wanton play,
 Spite of those lovely errors which betray
 Th' enchanted soul to fond applause,
 E'en she, the wand'rer shall be taught,
 That nothing truly great was ever wrought
 Where judgment was away.

Through osier twigs th' Acanthus rose :
 Th' idea charms ! the artist glows !
 But 'twas his skill to please,
 Which bade the graceful foliage spread,
 To crown the stately column's head
 With dignity and ease.
 When great Appelles, pride of Greece,
 Frown'd on the almost finish'd piece,
 Despairing to succeed,
 What tho' the missile vengeance pass'd
 From his rash hand, the random cast
 Might dash the foam, but skill had form'd the steed.
 Nor less the Phidian arts approve
 Labour and patient care,
 Whate'er the skilful artists trace,
 Laocoon's pangs, or soft Antinous' face,
 By skill, with that diviner air,
 The Delian God does all but move ;
 'Twas skill gave terrors to the front of Jove,
 To Venus every grace.

—And shall each sacred seat,
 The vales of Arno, and the Tuscan stream,
 No more be visited with pilgrim feet ?
 No more on sweet Hymethus' summits dream,
 The sons of Albion ? or below,
 Where Ilyffus' waters flow ;
 Trace with awe the dear remains
 Of mouldring urns, and mutilated fanes ?
 —Far be the thought. Each sacred seat,
 Each monument of ancient fame,

Shall

Shall still be visited with pilgrim feet,
 And Albion gladly own from whence she caught the flame.
 Still shall her studious youth repair,
 Beneath their King's protecting care,
 To every clime which art has known ;
 And rich with spoils from every coast
 Return till Albion learn to boast
 An Athens of her own.

O D E, to Music, performed in the Senate House at Cambridge,
 July 1, 1769, at the Installation of AUGUSTUS HENRY DUKE of
 GRAFTON, CHANCELLOR of the UNIVERSITY.

Written by MR. GRAY, Author of the Elegy in a Country Church-
 Yard: Set by DR. RANDALL, Music PROFESSOR.

A I R.

HENCE ! avaunt ! ('tis holy ground)
 Comus, and his midnight crew,
 And Ignorance with looks profound,
 And dreaming Sloth of pallid hue !
 Mad Sedition's cry prophane,
 Servitude that hugs her chain,
 Nor in these consecrated bow'rs,
 Let painted Flatt'ry hide her serpent-train in flow'rs.

C H O R U S.

Nor Envy base, nor creeping Gain,
 Dare the muses walk to stain,
 While bright-eyed Science walks around :
 Hence ! avaunt ! 'tis holy ground.

R E C I T A T I V E.

From yonder realms of empyrean day
 Burst on my ear th' indignant lay !
 There sit the fainted sage, the bard divine,
 The few whom Genius gave to shine,
 Thro' ev'ry unborn age and undiscover'd clime ;
 Rapt in celestial transport they ;
 Yet hither oft a glance from high
 They send of tender sympathy,
 To bless the place, where on their op'ning soul
 First the genuine ardor stole ;
 'Twas Milton struck the deep ton'd shell
 And as the choral warblings round him swell,
 Meek Newton's self bends from his state sublime,
 And nods his hoary head, and listens to the rhyme.

A I R.

" Ye brown o'er-arching groves,
 " That contemplation loves,

" Where willowy Camus lingers with delight,
 " Oft at blush of dawn
 " I've trod your level lawn,
 " Oft woo'd the gleam of Cynthia's silver light,
 " In cloisters dim, far from the haunts of Folly,
 " With Freedom by my side and soft ey'd Melancholy."

R E C I T A T I V E.

But hark! the portals found, and pacing forth
 With solemn steps and slow,
 High potentates, and dames of Royal birth,
 And mitred fathers, in long order go;
 Great Edward, with the lilies on his brow,
 From haughty Gallia torn;
 And sad Chatillon * on her bridal morn,
 That wept her bleeding love, and princely Clare †;
 And Anjou's heroine; and the paler Rose,
 The rival of her crown and of her woes;
 And either Henry there,
 The murder'd saint, and the majestic lord
 That broke the bonds of Rome.
 Their tears; their little triumphs o'er,
 Their human passions move no more,
 Save Charity that glows beyond the tomb,

[Accompanied.

All that on Granta's fruitful plain,
 Rich streams of regal bounty pour'd,
 And bade their awful fanes and turrets rise,
 To hail their Fitzroy's festal morning come,
 And thus they speak in soft accord,
 The liquid language of the skies.

Q U A R T E T T O.

What is grandeur, what is pow'r?
 Heavier toil! superior pain!
 What the bright reward of gain?
 The grateful memory of the good:
 Sweet is the breath of vernal show'r,
 The bees collected treasure sweet;
 Sweet music's fall,—but sweeter yet,
 The still small voice of Gratitude!

* This alludes to Mary St. Paul, foundress of Pembroke-hall, of the house of Chatillon, whose husband Adomar de Valentia, Earl of Pembroke, lost his life in a tournament on his wedding day with this his third wife. Her father was an hostage in England after the battle of Poitiers upon the conclusion of the peace of Bretigny.

† The princely Clare was foundress of Clare-hall.

R E C I T A T I V E.

Foremost, and leaning from her golden cloud,
 The venerable Margaret see—
 Welcome, my noble son, she cries aloud,
 To this thy kindred train and me,
 Pleas'd in thy lineaments to trace
 A Tudor's fire, a Beaufort's grace !

A I R.

Thy liberal heart, thy judging eye
 The flower unheeded shall descry,
 And bid it round heav'n's altars shed,
 The fragrance of its blushing head,
 Shall raise from earth the latent gem,
 To glitter on the diadem !

R E C I T A T I V E.

Lo Granta waits to lead her blooming band,
 Not obvious, not obtrusive she ;
 No vulgar praise, no venal incense flings,
 Nor dares with courtly tongue refin'd
 Profane thy inborn royalty of mind :
 She reveres herself and thee !
 With modest pride, to grace thy youthful brow,
 The laureat wreaths that Cecil wore she brings,
 And to thy just, thy gentle hand,
 Submits the fasces of her sway,
 While spirits blest above and men below,
 Join with glad voice the loud symphonious lay !

G R A N D C H O R U S.

Through the wild waves as they roar,
 With watchful eye and dauntless mien,
 Thy steady course of honor keep ;
 Nor fear the rocks, nor seek the shore :
 The star of Brunswick shines serene,
 And gilds the horrors of the deep.

P R O L O G U E,

*To the Roman Father, acted at the Theatre at Bristol, on Friday, July
 14, 1769, for the FAMILY of the late Mr. POWELL.*

Written by Mr. COLMAN.

Spoken by Mr. HOLLAND.

WHEN fancied sorrows wake the player's art,
 A short liv'd anguish seizes on the heart :
 Tears, real tears he sheds, feels real pain,
 But the dream vanished, he's himself again.
 No such relief, alas, alas ! his bosom knows,
 When the sad tear from home-felt sorrow flows :

Passions cling round the soul, do all we can—
He plays no part, and can't shake off the man.

Where'er I tread, where'er I turn my eyes,
Of my lost friend new images arise.
Can I forget, that from our earliest age,
His talents known, I led him to the stage?
Can I forget this circle in my view,
His first great pride—to be approv'd by you?
His soul, with ev'ry tender feeling blest,
The holy flame of gratitude possess'd.
Soft as the stream yon sacred springs impart,
The milk of human kindness warm'd his heart.
Peace, peace be with him!—May the present stage
Contend, like him, your favour to engage!
May we, like him, deserve your kindness shown!
Like him, with gratitude that kindness own!
So shall our art pursue the noblest plan,
And each good actor prove an honest man.

P R O L O G U E,

To the new Comedy of DR. LAST IN HIS CHARIOT.

Written by D. GARRICK, Esq.

And spoken by Mr. FOOTE.

YOUR servant, kind masters, from bottom to top.
Be assur'd, while I breathe, or can stand—I mean hop,
Be you pleas'd to smile, or be pleas'd to grumble;
Be whatever you please, I am still your most humble.
As to laugh is a right only given to man,
To keep up that right is my pride and my plan.
Fair ladies, don't frown, I meant woman too—
What's common to man, must be common to you.—
You all have a right your sweet muscles to curl,
From the old smirking prude, to the titt'ring young girl;
And ever with pleasure my brains I could spin,
To make you all giggle, and you, ye Gods, grin.
In this present summer, as well as the past,
To your favour again we present Dr. Last,
Who, by wonderful feats, in the papers recounted,
From trudging on foot, to his chariot is mounted,
Amongst the old Britons when war was begun,
Charioteers would slay ten, while the foot could slay one:
So, when doctors on wheels with dispatches are sent,
Mortality bills rise a thousand per cent.
But think not to physic that quack'ry's confin'd,
All the world is a stage, and the quacks are mankind—

There

There's trade, law, and state-quacks; nay, would we but search,
 We should find,—Heaven bless us!—some quacks in the church!
 The stiff band, and stiff bob of the Methodist race,
 Give the balsam of life and the tincture of grace,
 And their poor wretched patients, think much good is done 'em,
 Tho' blisters and caustics are ever upon them.
 As for law and the state, if quack'ry's a curse,
 Which will make the good bad, and the bad will make worse,
 We should point out the quack, from the regular brother,
 They are wiser than I who can tell one from t'other!
 Can the stage with its bills, puffs, and patients stand trial,
 Shall we find out no quacks in the theatre royal?
 Some dramatical drugs that are puff'd on the town,
 Cause many wry faces, and scarce will *go down*.
 Nay an audience sometimes will in quack'ry delight,
 And sweat down an author, some pounds in one night.
 To return to our quack—should he, help'd by the weather,
 Raise laughter, and kind perspiration together,
 Should his nostrums of hip, and of vapours but cure ye,
 His chariot he well can deserve, I assure ye;
 'Tis easy to set up a chariot in town,
 And easier still is that chariot laid down.
 He petitions by me, both as doctor and lover,
 That you'll not stop his wheels or his chariot tip over;
 Fix him well I beseech you, the worst on't wou'd be,
 Should you overturn *him*, you may *overfet me*.

E P I L O G U E,

Written by the AUTHOR of the COMEDY.

And spoken by a Little Girl of Four Years and a Half old.

LADIES and Gentlemen, they've sent me out—
 But I'm afraid to tell you what about;
 Because 'twere bold in me, perhaps, you'll say,
 To come to ask you how you like the play;
 Yet that's my business; nay, more free to make,
 I'm come to beg you'd like it for my sake.
 The author took me in his arms just now,
 My dear, says he,—he kiss'd me too, I vow——
 If you'll go out and make the audience clap,
 I'll give you ribbons and a fine new cap.
 Besides, he promis'd me, next time he comes
 Behind the scenes, to bring me sugar-plumbs.
 But whatsoe'er you think the play to be,
 When you go home I'm sure you'll talk of me.
 Says Lady Stingo to Sir Gilbert Mild,
 "At Foote's! Sir Gilbert, have you seen the child?"

" 'Tis really a *curofity* to view her:
 " Our little Betsey is a mountain to her ;
 " Such action, such a tongue—and yet I query
 " If she be five years old—a very fairy !"

Sir Gilbert answers, with a peevish nod,

" Pshaw! let the little hussy have a rod.

" There are old folks enough to play the fool :

" Children, my lady, should be sent to school."

And so they should, the naughty ones, no doubt,
 Who'll neither books nor needle learn without.

But I am come of no such idle breed ;

At four years old, I could both write and read,

To be at work my fingers still are itching—

These flounces here are all of my own stitching.

[*Taking up and shewing her Frock.*]

But is my prate dislik'd? For after all
 I am but young, 'tis true, and somewhat small ;
 And taller ladies, I must needs confess,
 Might speak an epilogue with more address.
 However, some few things I have to plead ;
 First, 'pon my word and credit, I'm a maid.
 Will that pass here for merit?—I don't know——
 I'm a new face—which gen'rally does so.
 And if you want me louder, taller, bolder,
 Have patience—I shall mend, as I grow older.

SCRUB'S TRIP TO THE JUBILEE.

A COMIC PROLOGUE.

Spoken by Mr. WESTON at the Theatre Royal in the Haymarket.*

FROM Stratford arriv'd—piping hot—gentle folks,
 From the rarest fine shows and most wonderful jokes,
 Your simple acquaintance, Scrub, comes to declare,
 'Twas fuller by far than our Litchfield great fair,
 Such crouds of fine ladies, serenading and finging,
 Such firing of loud pateraroes, and ringing,
 To tell it in London must seem all a fable,
 And yet I will tell it as well as I'm able.
 First, something in *linguo* of schools, call'd an Ode ;
 All critics, they told me, allow'd very good :
 One said—you may take it for truth I assure ye,
 'Twas made by the little great man of Old Drury ;
 By my brother Martin—for whose sake d'ye hear,
 This night I'd a mind for a touch at Shakespeare †.

* On his benefit night.

† This alludes to Mr. Weston's intention of playing Richard.

But honestly speaking, I take more delight in
 A bit of good fun, than drums, trumpets, and fighting.
 The procession, 'twas said, would have been a fine train;
 But could not move forwards—oh la, for the rain.
 Such tragical, comical folks, and so fine—
 What pity it was that the sun did not shine,
 Since ladies and baronets, aldermen, squires,
 All went to this Jubilee full of desires,
 In crouds, as they go for to see a new play,
 And when it was done—why they all came away.
 Don't let me forget—a main part of the show,
 Was long tail'd, fine comets, by fam'd Angelo;
 Some turtle I got, which they call'd *pashapee*—
 But honest roast beef's the best turtle for me.
 I hate all ragouts, and, like a bold Briton,
 Prefer good plumb-pudding to aught I e'er bit on.
 I drank too—and now I'd a poet may be—
 From a charming fine cup of the mulberry tree.
 To bed I must go—for which like a ninny,
 I paid—like my betters—no less than a guinea.
 For rolling—not sleeping—in linen so damp,
 As struck my great toe ever since with the cramp:
 Thus fleec'd—in my pocket I felt a great smarting,
 Yet griev'd not when I and the splinters were parting,
 'Twas worth ten times more to hear sweet brother Martin. }
 He spoke till poor Scrub was just fit, with one eye
 To laugh, while the other was ready to cry:
 Which make me now tell you, without any brag,
 He's second to none but the Warwickshire wag.
 The Jubilee over, I come to this place,
 To tell you my story and sue for your grace;
 You never refus'd it—yet never before,
 With granting such kindness bound gratitude more.
 I love but to own with a diligent spirit,
 Your favours have ever out-run my slight merit.

P R O L O G U E,

To the Entertainment of the JUBILEE.

Written by Mr. GARRICK.

Spoken by Mr. KING.

FROM London, your honours, to *Stratford* I'm come;
 I'm a waiter, your honours—you know bustling *Tom*,
 Who proud of your orders, and bowing before ye,
 'Till supper is ready, will tell you a story.—
 'Twixt Hounslow and Colnbrook—Two houses of fame.
 Well known on that road—the two *Magpies* by name;

The

The one of long standing, the other a *new* one——
 That boasts he's the old, and this he's the true one.
 Tho' we, the Old Magpye, as well as the younger,
 May puff that our liquors are clearer and stronger,
 Of puffing and bragging you make but a jest,
 You taste of us both, and will stick to the best :
 A race we have had, for your pastime and laughter——
Young Mag started first, with *Old Mag* hopping after :
 'Tis said the *old* house hath possess'd a receipt,
 To make a choice mixture of sour, strong, and sweet ;
 A *Jubilee* punch—which, right skilfully made,
 Infur'd the *Old Magpye* a good running trade ;
 But think you we mean to monopolize ?—no, no—
 We're like brother *Ashley*—*pro Publico Bono* !
 Each Magpye, your honours, will peck at his brother,
 And their natures were always to crib from each other ;
Young landlords, and *Old* ones, are taught by their calling,
 To laugh at engrossing, but practise forestalling :
 Our landlords are game-cocks—and fair play but grant 'em,
 I'll warrant you pastime from each little bantam.——
 To return to the punch—I hope from my soul,
 That now the *old* Magpye may sell you a bowl——
 We've all sorts and sizes, a quick trade to drive ;
 We've one shilling, two shillings, three shillings,—*five*.
 From this town of *Stratford* you'll have each ingredient,
 Besides a kind welcome—from me, your obedient.
 I'll now squeeze my fruit, put the sugar and rum in,
 And be back in a moment—[*bell-rings*] I'm coming, Sir—Coming!
[Exit running.]

*An EPISTLE to Lord COBHAM, by Mr. POPE *.*

SINCEREST critic of my prose or rhyme,
 Tell how thy pleasing Stowe employs thy time :
 Say, Cobham, what amuses thy retreat ;
 Or schemes of war, or stratagems of state ;
 Dost thou recal to mind, with joy or grief,
 Great Marlbro's actions, that immortal chief ?
 Whose highest trophy rais'd in each campaign,
 More than suffic'd to signalize a reign ?
 Does thy remembrance, rising warm thy heart
 With glory past, where thou thyself had'st part ?

* This epistle, said to be written by Mr. Pope, was published in one of the daily papers last August, and there said never to have been published before. As we do not remember to have seen it, we have given it a place here.

Or dost thou grieve, indignant now to see,
 The fruitless end of all thy victory?
 To see th' audacious foe so late subdu'd,
 Dispute those terms for which so long they su'd;
 As if Britannia now were sunk so low,
 To beg that peace she wonted to bestow?
 Be far that guilt, be never known that shame,
 That England should retract her rightful claim
 Or ceasing to be dreaded and ador'd,
 Stain with her pen the lustre of her sword.
 Or dost thou give the winds afar to blow
 Each vexing thought, and heart-devouring woe,
 And fix thy mind alone on rural scenes,
 To turn the level'd lawns to liquid plains;
 To raise the creeping rills from humble beds,
 And force the latent springs to lift their heads;
 On wat'ry columns, capitals to rear,
 That mix their flowing curls with upper air?
 Or dost thou, weary grown, these works neglect,
 No temple, statues, obelisks, erect,
 But with the morning breeze from fragrant meads,
 Or shun the noon-tide ray in wholesome shades,
 Or slowly walk along the mazy wood,
 To meditate on all that's wise and good?
 For nature bountiful in thee has join'd,
 A person pleasing with a worthy mind;
 Not giv'n thee form alone, but means and art,
 To draw the eye, or to allure the heart.
 Poor were the praise in fortune to excel,
 Yet want of means to use that fortune well;
 While thus adorn'd, while thus with virtue crown'd,
 At home in peace, abroad in arms renown'd;
 Graceful in form, and winning in address,
 While well you think what aptly you express;
 With health, with honour, with a fair estate,
 A table free, and elegantly neat;
 What can be added more to mortal bliss?
 What can he want who stands possess'd of this!
 What can the fondest wishing mother more,
 Of heaven attentive for her son implore?
 And yet a happiness remains unknown,
 Or to philosophy reveal'd alone,
 A precept which unpractis'd renders vain
 Thy flowing hopes, and pleasure turns to pain.
 Should hope, or fear, thy heart alternate tear,
 Or love, or hate, or rage, or anxious care,
 Whatever passions may thy mind infest,
 (Where is that mind that passions ne'er molest?)

Amidst

P O E T R Y.

Amidst the pangs of such intestine strife,
 Still think the present day the last of life;
 Defer not till to-morrow to be wise,
 Tomorrow's fun to thee may never rise;
 Or should to-morrow chance to cheer the sight,
 With her enlivening and unlook'd for light,
 How grateful will appear her dawning rays!
 As favours unexpected doubly please.
 Who thus can think, and who such thoughts pursues,
 Content may keep his life, or calmly lose:
 All proof of this thou may'st thyself receive,
 When leisure from affairs will give thee leave.
 Come, see thy friend retir'd without regret,
 Forgetting care, or trying to forget;
 In easy contemplation soothing time
 With morals much, and now and then with rhyme;
 Nor so robust in body as in mind,
 And always undejected, though declin'd;
 Not wond'ring at the world's new wicked ways,
 Compar'd with those of our forefathers days;
 For virtue now is neither more or less,
 And vice is only varied in the dress.
 Believe it, men have ever been the same,
 And all the golden age is but a dream.

S O N G.

*Written by Mr. P O P E *.*

SAYS Phœbe, why is gentle love,
 A stranger to that mind,
 Which pity and esteem can move,
 Which can be just and kind?
 Is it because you fear to prove
 The ills that love molest;
 The jealous cares, the sighs that move
 The captivated breast?
 Alas! by some degree of woe,
 We every bliss must gain;
 That heart can ne'er a transport know,
 That never felt a pain.

* *First published in the Ledger last August.*

PROLOGUE AND EPILOGUE.

Spoken to the Siege of Damascus, performed the first of December 1769, by the young gentlemen of Mr. Crawford's academy, at Newington in Surry.

P R O L O G U E

Written by Mr. POTTER.

Spoken by a Boy of Eight Years of age.

HARD is the task in this enlighten'd age,
For men of *genius* to attempt the stage;
But harder still, for such as me, to try
By soothing arts to blind the critic's eye:
And yet, unless you smile, I greatly fear,
Not one of my poor comrades will appear;
They all are trembling for the steps they've taken,
And send me here, forsooth, to save their bacon.
'Tis now, alas! too late to be afraid,
Our bark's at sea, and we the *storm must wade*.

[Speaks to those behind the scenes.]

You need not fear,—get ready in your places,
For here's a lovely group of smiling faces,
They all look pleasant, and there is no doubt,
But they'll sit patiently and hear you out——

[Turning to the Audience.]

I've one thing more, and then my task is done,
(Methinks, already you must with me gone,)
Male creatures all, we've not one female here,
Who can in sweet *Eudocia's* part appear:
The case is bad; perhaps you'll say 'tis shocking,
I think I hear some one among you mocking; *[Looks forward]*
Who whispers, *boys in petticoats?—what stuff,*
It is but one—*(laughing)* a pretty minx enough;
She's somewhat awkward, I must freely own,
But you'll excuse it, now the cause is known:
Some twelve years hence, 'less death our hopes should kill,
We'll *manage* petticoats with *better* skill.

E P I L O G U E.

Enter Eudocia, followed by the little Boy who spoke the Prologue.

EUDOCIA.

YOU speak the epilogue!—For what—or why?
Can you, Sir, speak it, half as well as I?

Boy.

Why not?—I spoke the prologue.

EUDOCIA.

Very true——

Boy.

Boy.

And can the epilogue as well as you.

EUDOCIA.

Nor more dispute the point, you little elf,

Boy.

Marry, come up!—what airs you give yourself!

EUDOCIA.

Nay, don't be rude, for I'm a woman now.

Boy.

A woman! (*laughing*) well, that's very fine, I vow;
A boy in petticoats, you should have said;
But though you've got a tail, you have no head.
You really make me blush to hear you talk,
And, do but see, how awkwardly you walk. [*laughs.*]

EUDOCIA.

Urchin, no more!—how dare you make so free?
Away—and leave the epilogue to me.
Begone—or dread my vengeance!—why d'ye stand?

Boy.

O Ma'am (*laughing*) your humble servant at command.
For once, to please you, I'll indulge your pride,
So mount your hobby-horse, my dear, and ride:
But have a care, lest he should trip or stumble,
You'll much repent it, should the critics grumble:
In such a case, O! how you'll fret and vex,
They'll shew but little mercy to your sex. [*laughing.*]
So fare you well, I leave you to your fate,
And wish you mayn't be sorry when too late. [*Exit.*]

EUDOCIA, *affectedly*.

Bless me!—This boy's impertinence and clutter,
Has quite confus'd me!—How my spirits flutter!
Bear with my weakness, for a moment, pray,
I scarce know what to do, or what to say.—

This female dress, I own, has giv'n me pain,
'Tis o'er—I'll ne'er *disguise myself* again:
But act thro' life, the noblest part I can,
And in my future conduct, be *the man*.—
So much for *spouting*;—we have had our fill;
And you, good folks, have seen our want of skill.—
The actor's walk's a dang'rous path to tread;
Unhappy they, who seek that path for bread:
Far nobler purposes *we* have in view,
And bless'd by Heav'n, will soon those plans pursue.

P R O-

P R O L O G U E,

Spoken at the Opening of the New Theatre at EDINBURGH.

WHEN infant Rome had made her name renown'd,
 And wide had stretch'd her empire's narrow bound,
 For polish'd arts she strove with ardent skill,
 And toil'd incessant with laborious will.
 Nor 'till seven hundred hard-worn years were past,
 Tho' late, propitious fortune smil'd at last.
 Not such slow rise Edina boasts, she fears;
 She drags not glory from such depth of years;
 At once resolv'd, at once she gains the prize,
 The arts now flourish, lofty columns rise.
 This night, to grace this spot, you now appear;
 O may it soon a swan like Avon's rear,
 Edina boast a son with Garrick's art,
 Like him to touch, like him to melt the heart.
 Oh! why not fan the ardent, fond desire,
 The Muse's smiles Edina's sons inspire;
 To Home and Thomson lent the magic lyre,
 For Randolph's woe, and Tancred's youthful fire.
 In arms and arts we now can claim the bays,
 And Robertson shall live to latest days;
 Shall live with all the strength of Livy's page,
 And give new subjects to this rising stage.
 Our art, as yet, is here in tender youth,
 Oh! lead her footsteps in the paths of truth.
 May manly reason with these pleasures vie;
 May Shakespeare triumph, and may opera die.
 Ne'er by a ditty may her nerve be lost,
 Nor cherish sound, at sense and meaning's cost.
 Ye fair, without your smile, we toil in vain,
 And vain the music of the sweetest strain;
 'Tis you must help to give our genius birth,
 And raise, to glorious fame, desponding worth.
 Ye men of taste, who love this classic ground,
 Where genius rises, and the arts abound:
 Ye learned fathers of our sacred laws,
 Who shine conspicuous in fair virtue's cause;
 Lend a calm hour to make this blossom bear,
 And ages yet unborn shall bless your care.

P O E T R Y.

P R O L O U E,

To the new Comedy of the BROTHERS.

Written by the AUTHOR*.

Spoken by Mr. SMITH.

VARIOUS the shifts of authors now a-days,
 For operas, farces, pantomimes, and plays :
 Some scour each alley of the town for wit,
 Begging, from door to door, the offal bit ;
 Plunge in each cellar, tumble every stall,
 And scud, like taylors, to each house of call ;
 Gut every novel, strip each monthly muse,
 And pillage Poets Corner of its news :
 That done, they melt the stale farrago down,
 And set their dish of scraps before the town ;
 Boldly invite you to their pilfer'd store,
 Cram you—then wonder you can eat no more.

Some in our English classics deeply read,
 Ransack the tombs of the illustrious dead ;
 Hackney the Muse of Shakespeare, o'er and o'er,
 From shoulder to the flank, all drench'd in gore.

Others to foreign climes and kingdoms roam,
 To search for what is better found at home :
 The recreant bard, oh ! scandal to the age !
 Gleans the vile refuse of a Gallic stage.

Not so our bard—To-night, he bids me say,
 You shall receive and judge an English play.
 From no man's jest he draws felonious praise,
 Nor from his neighbour's garden crops his bays :
 From his own breast the filial story flows,
 And the free scene no foreign matter knows :
 Nor only tenders he his work as new ;
 He hopes 'tis good, or wou'd not give it you :
 True homely ware, and made of honest stuff,
 Right British drugget, honest †, warm and rough.
 No station'd friend he seeks, nor hir'd applause,
 But constitutes your jurors in his cause.
 For fame he writes—should folly be his doom,
 Weigh well your verdict, and then give it home ;
 Shou'd you applaud, let that applause be true ;
 For, undeserv'd, it shames both him and you.

* *It was hardly necessary for the author of the piece to inform us that he wrote the prologue, for we think, no one but himself capable of so much vanity and insignificance. With what contempt does he treat contemporary dramatic writers ; however, we think it will be generally allowed, that he is the most contemptible of all the writers of the present time.*

† *Honest ! what does this genius mean ? Drugget may be warm and rough, but the epithet honest seems to want explanation.*

E P I-

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 † T

EPILOGUE*.

Spoken by Mrs. YATES.

WH O but has seen the celebrated strife,
 Where Reynolds calls the canvass into life;
 And 'twixt the Tragic and the Comic Muse,
 Courted of both, and dubious where to chuse,
 Th' immortal actor stands?—Here we espy
 An awful figure, pointing to the sky;
 A grave, sublime, commanding form she bears,
 And in her zone an unsheath'd dagger wears.
 On t'other side, with sweet, attractive mien,
 The playful Muse of Comedy is seen:
 She, with a thousand soft, bewitching smiles,
 Mistress of love, his yielding heart beguiles;
 † [For where's the heart so harden'd, to withstand,
 The fond compulsion of so fair a hand?]
 O! would she here bestow those winning arts!
 This night we'd fix her empire in your hearts;
 No tragic passions should deface the age,
 But all should catch good-humour from the stage:
 The storming husband and imperious wife,
 Should learn the doctrine of a quiet life;
 [The plodding drudge should here, at times, resort,
 And leave his stupid club, and stummy port;]
 The pensive politician, who foresees
 Clouds, storms, and tempests, in the calms of peace;
 The scribbling tribe, who vent their angry spleens
 In songs, prints, pamphlets, papers, magazines;
 Lucius and Anti-Lucius, Pros and Cons,
 The lists of Placets and of Placet-nons;
 The mobbing vulgar, and the ruling great,
 And all who storm, and all who steer the state;
 Here should forget the labours of the day,
 And laugh their cares and their complaints away:
 The wretch of Jonathan's, who, crush'd with shame,
 Crawls lamely out from India's desprate game,
 Safely might speculate within these walls,—
 For here, while you approve, stock never falls.
 Pleas'd, then, indulge the efforts of to-night,
 Nor grudge to give, if you've receiv'd delight.

* This is the original epilogue, but the author has lately written another, which is spoken by Mr. Woodward in the character of Ironsides; but this did not appear in print time enough to have a place here.

† The lines in crotchets are omitted by Mrs. Yates.

P R O L O G U E.

Spoken at Covent-Garden Theatre to the Comedy of Rule a Wife and Have a Wife, performed for the benefit of the City of London Lying-in Hospital, Aldersgate-street, Dec. 20.

By Mrs. Y A T E S.

IN Rome the civic crown adorn'd the brave,
 Whose sword a single citizen could save :
 What wreaths then, ladies, should your temples bind,
 Whose charity takes in all human-kind ;
 Who to the child unborn extend your care,
 And snatch the pregnant matron from despair ;
 Wipe the big drop that trembles in her eye,
 And all her complicated wants supply !
 Such are your pleasures ! your celestial task ; —
 More prompt to give, than misery to ask.
 Go on—the sacred ministry pursue—
 Angels in form—in office angels too.

Think, when the mother's pangs to joy give place,
 And the sweet babe lies smiling in her face,
 When all her anguish, all her fears are o'er,
 And sickness, pain, and famine threat no more,
 What pray'rs for you will wing their way to Heav'n,
 What frailties, if you have them, be forgiven !

Each hardy son, whom this night's alms shall raise,
 Will to Great Britain consecrate his days ;
 Her arts, her commerce, her domain extend,
 Or force her haughty enemies to bend ;
 Whilst the fair daughters of this genial day
 Shall serve their country—in a gentler way ;
 If doom'd as humble spinsters to grow old,
 Shall spin our envy'd fleeces into gold ;
 If wedded, shall with Hymen's magic chain,
 From foreign climes our artizans restrain,
 From foreign climes recal the wand'ring tar,
 With hearts of oak supply the waste of war,
 And with sons sons enrich our future store,
 Till time, and this great empire are no more. [Bell rings.
 But lo ! the laughing Muse comes tripping on,
 And by her herald warns me to be gone ;
 Yet hence be this great moral understood,
 That *private virtue* leads to *public good*.

E P I L O G U E.

E P I L O G U E,

To the STRATAGEM, performed Dec. 22, at Covent Garden Theatre, for the Benefit of the New General Lying-in Hospital, in Store-street, Tottenham-court-road.

Spoken by Mr. SHUTER in the character of a Matron of the Hospital.

I Speak an epilogue, my masters, old and lam';
Spare me, your honours, I shall die with shame!
In such a trim too, 'fore the board t'appear—
Well, I obey; behold your matron here!
Why do the gentry laugh? at me I trow—
We poor old folks are always laugh'd at now;
If we fall down, 'tis a good jest, you cry,
'Tis an old woman only, let her lie;
Not one young man to help us up, or say
A civil thing in a good-natur'd way;
But to your mem'ry I could times produce,
When we old women are of no small use:
Let the gout pinch, you freely draw the purse,
And then I'm comely! tender! *Mrs. Nurse!*
When you get well, you change this gentle strain,
'Tis damn th' old woman! oh! ungrateful men!
I, who with so much tendernefs and care,
Have nurs'd and dandled many a peevish heir;
Ladies and lords have slept upon this lap,
And the first captain here has swallow'd pap:
But I forgot what I was sent to say—
Our hospital (the cause of this fine play)
Was near a ground, good sirs, without your aid;
Our butcher, baker, grocer, still unpaid;
For our good masters never can say nay,
Nor send one poor big bellied wretch away;
'Tis a small place, but all is good and plain,
We leave great houses to the rich and vain.
Ah! ladies, come and see it for my sake,
And deign to taste the caudle which I make;
Did you but see the blessings you create,
And the sweet babes so healthy and so neat!
You'd not repent the money you bestow,
But add fresh help to such pathetic woe.

P R O L O G U E,

To the TRIP to SCOTLAND.

Spoken by CUPID, in the Habit of a Postilion.

YE belles, ye beaux, of whatsoe'er degree,
Above below, around, behold in me
A modern Cupid; not like ancient Love
On nimble wings, but post-horses, I move.

T 2

Their

Their idol's arms let heathen bards recount,
 This is *my* bow, I smack it, and I mount.
 My spurs are pointed arrows in disguise,
 And this broad belt the bandage from my eyes.
 Nay e'en those wings which once out-stripp'd the wind,
 Hang dangling down like shoulder-knots behind.

For you transform'd I quit the Paphian grove,
 Cold Scotland's now the only land for love.
 For Scotland ho!—on no fool's errand sent,
 I come myself, my own advertisement.

Ye blooming maids, whom half-pay captains press,
 Or struck, perhaps, with Robin's rainbow dress,
 Who in assemblies sigh, or pine in shades:
 Ye youths, who languish for your mother's maids,
 Why will ye idly wait for twenty-one?
 Behold your vassal! mount, and let's be gone.
 Despise what vulgar mortals prudence call;
 Love is the word, and love can equal all.
 The eager hostler in the passage stays,
 My steeds are ready harness'd to my chaise:
 And if this season ends as it began,
 Egad, next year I'll drive a caravan.

Does no one want me?—But the cause I see;
 You're all ashamed before good company;
 Well then, I never blab; my province is
 To deal in secrets; but remember this—
 In eight-and-forty hours we reach the borders.
 —I'll in the green-room wait for farther orders.

[CUPID waves his whip, and goes out. *The scene shifts.*
Before the Dance, Fillagree (a Character in the Piece) comes forward
with Cupid in her Hand, by Way of Epilogue.

F I L L A G R E E.

Ladies, you'll witness what this boy has done,
 What fools he makes us, and what risques we run,
 When this vile gad-fly goads us——
 This puppet thing, this miniature of man!
 What say you, shall I brain him with my fan?
 Or in the very zenith of his glory,
 Here with my glove-string strangle him before ye?
 —You're tender-hearted: well then, so am I.
 Methinks it were a pity Love should die.

C U P I D,

Love cannot die, whilst so much beauty reigns
 In yon fair circle,——

Say, ye nymphs, ye swains,
 Was it not right, one knotty point to clear.
 That Love himself should be in person here?

That

That boys should match with girls, and girls with boys:
 Mere nature can produce such idle toys.
 But sure it asks some supernatural aid,
 When such a lover sighs for such a maid.

[*Pointing to Fillagree and Griskin.*]

Besides, ye fair, from me perhaps you'll hear,
 What from mere mortals might offend your ear.

Between ourselves, I cannot quite approve
 This modern bare-fac'd hurrying into love.
 My ancient chiefs, so fam'd for love and war,
 Besieg'd whole ages the obdurate fair;
 Now, e'er the lover wooes, the lady's won,
 And half the sex run post to be undone.

Be wise, be cautious; keep this truth in view,
 Few hasty marriages are happy too.
 Approach with awe th' indissoluble bands,
 Try well your hearts before you yield your hands;
 Let each kind parent's voice complete the plan,
 And blush consent ev'n then behind your fan.

AN ADDRESS TO HEALTH.

By W. W O T Y.

I.

SOON as the nimble handmaid Hours,
 Emerging from their twilight bow'rs,
 The fair *Aurora* have divinely drest;
 Ere yet the radiant Lord of day,
 Chasing the humid clouds away,
 With heav'nly glow hath flush'd the pale-fac'd east;
 Oh! rose-lip'd virgin! are thy footsteps seen,
 Both on the mountain slope, and on the level green.

II.

What time within the maze of sleep,
 The drones of life their senses steep,
 Whilst dreams oppressive o'er their fancies ride,
 Thou join'st the merry random dance,
 With Exercise and Temperance:
That the gay groom, and *this* the happy bride:
 These are thy parents, and from such as these
 Did Britain's hardy race spring up in ancient days.

III.

Queen of each grace! sweet-featur'd maid!
 Without thy gen'rous constant aid,

Love's frisky land in vain doth beauty tread.
 No genuine, fond adorer dies
 Beneath her brilliant—killing eyes ;
 For all their lustre, all their fire is fled :
 Nor can the fair one long the loss survive,
 Till thou her charms restore, and keep those charms alive.

IV.

Oh fav'rite of the human race !
 What certain quick events take place,
 Dispensing gracious boon when thou art nigh !
 Sicknesh, unpillowing his head,
 Starts up alertly from his bed,
 And looks around him with a joyful eye ;
 Whilst Grief, who, like a skeleton appears,
 Blithe from his thin-worn cheek wipes off the scalding tears.

V.

At thy salute, thy friendly touch,
 Th' enfeebled mortal o'er his crutch
 No longer bends, but stands erect at length ;
 Sudden he feels with dear surprize
 Each fibre stretch, each muscle rise,
 And looks the figure of elastic strength.
 Wielding his club, *Alcides* like, he goes,
 Surveys his brawny limbs, and scarce himself he knows.

VI.

Ah ! when shall I thy blessings share ?
 When wilt thou give thy vital air
 To fan the dying embers of my soul ?
 When shall I join, when once again
 Join thy jocose—thy ruddy train,
 And quaff with decency thy sober bowl ?
 View me with pity, and thy pow'r diffuse,
 Rebrace my flaccid nerves, and cheer my languid muse.

VII.

Since in thy primrose path I've been,
 The pranked spring hath pass'd unseen,
 Nor left one little flow'r to feast my eye :
 And *that brown beauty*, who the horn
 Of plenty fills with golden corn,
 In trim straw-hat hath trip'd regardless by ;
Pomona too her ample store display'd,
 Since through thy sylvan walks of paradise I stray'd.

VIII

And twice hath winter, foe severe
 To the soft sunshine of the year,

Disclos'd his horrid scenery of woe ;
 Twice from the rude, the chilling north,
 The hoary fire hath sallied forth,
 Bending beneath a magazine of snow ;
 Thou, whilst the whirl-winds rag'd at his command,
 Shook the vast burthen off, and roll'd it through the land.

IX.

Once more, propitious *Health!* once more
 My feeble frame to strength restore,
 Nor let me fall a victim to Despair.
 Alas ! I fear my troubl'd mind
 Is lost and rambles unconfin'd ;
 Else why to thee should I prefer my pray'r ?
 GREAT GOD OF MERCIES ! THOU alone canst save
 My weak, my sinking soul, and wrest me from the grave.

S O N G.

Written by a young Officer.

YES—(or my swelling heart will break)
 My tears at large shall flow :
 My pen, at least, my pain shall speak,
 And vent my hopeless woe.

II.

Unpractis'd in the tender art,
 By sighs my pain to prove.
 To bid my eyes explain my heart,
 Or lips reveal my love.

III.

Yet let my artless pen declare,
 What awe forbids my tongue ;
 And thou fair ***** deign to hear,
 If not reward my song.

IV.

Why should I write what all must know,
 That thou art good and fair ?
 Short is the language of my woe :
 I love—and I despair.

V.

If yet, beyond my hopes, thou deign
 My passion to repay ;
 What joy shall swell my raptur'd strain !
 What love inspire the lay !

P O E T R Y.

VI.

If not—let others whine or weep,
 T' express their shallow woe;
 Silent my griefs (for, oh! they're deep)
 Like mighty streams shall flow.

VII.

Far to the toilsome fields of fame
 See me resolv'd to rove;
 The voice of wars shall drown thy name,
 And danger fisle love.

VIII.

I haste in bloody fight to face
 Britannia's fiercest foe;
 To war with Gallia's crafty race,
 Or tempt the Indian's bow.

IX.

Yet still remains one bitter thought,
 —When fame aloud shall tell,
 How fierce thy faithful ***** fought,
 How torn with wounds he fell;

X.

One tear may dim that lovely eye,
 Which first my soul could move;
 That heart may heave one painful sigh,
 Which now disdains my love.

On the Birth-day of SHAKESPEARE. A CENTO. Taken from his Works.

By RICHARD BERENGER, Esq;

*Natura ipsa valere, et mentis viribus excitari, et quasi quodam divino
 spiritu afflari.* CICERO.

—P EACE to this meeting,
 Joy and fair time, health and good wishes!
 Now, worthy friends, the cause why we are met,
 Is in celebration of the day that gave
 Immortal Shakespeare to this favour'd isle,
 The most replenished sweet work of nature,
 Which from the prime creation e'er she fram'd.
 O thou divinest Nature! how thyself thou blazon'st
 In this thy son! form'd of thy prodigality,
 To hold thy mirror up, and give the time
 Its very form and pressure! When he speaks

Each

Each aged ear plays truant at his tales,
 And younger hearings are quite ravished,
 So voluble is his discourse—gentle
 As Zephyr blowing underneath the violet,
 Not wagging its sweet head—yet as rough
 (His noble blood enchaff'd) as the rude wind,
 That by the top doth take the mountain pine,
 And make him stoop to th' vale.—'Tis wonderful
 That an invivible instinct should frame him
 To royalty, unlearn'd; honour untaught;
 Civility not seen in other; knowledge
 That wildly grows in him, but yields a crop
 As if it had been sown. What a piece of work!
 How noble in faculty! infinite in reason!
 A combination and a form indeed,
 Where every god did seem to set his seal.
 Heav'n has him now—yet let our idolatrous fancy
 Still sanctify his relics; and this day
 Stand aye distinguish'd in the kalendar,
 To the last syllable of recorded time:
 For if we take him but for all in all,
 We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

V E R S E S,

On the Town of STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.

GREAT Homer's birth sev'n rival cities claim,
 Too mighty such monopoly of fame;
 Yet not to birth alone did Homer owe
 His wond'rous worth; what Egypt could bestow,
 With all the schools of Greece and Asia join'd,
 Enlarg'd th' immense expansion of his mind.
 Nor yet unrivall'd the Mæonian strain,
 The British eagle, and the Mantuan swain
 Tow'r equal heights. But happier Stratford, thou,
 With incontest'd laurels deck thy brow:
 Thy bard was thine unschool'd, and from thee brought
 More than all Egypt, Greece, or Asia taught!
 Not Homer's self such matchless honours won:
 The Greek has rivals, but thy Shakspeare none:

SECULAR

S E C U L A R O D E.

IN HONOUR OF

S H A K E S P E A R E*.

SHAKESPEARE! immortal bard! no name but thine
 My purest zeal invokes these lays t'inspire:
 What Muse of all those antient fabled Nine
 Can in her gift have more of genial fire!

To that great name alone such pow'rs belong,
 Each British heart must at the mention bound;
 The lyre instinctive swells to meet the song,
 The strings, spontaneous, vibrate to the sound.

The theme so pregnant with transcendent praise,
 Its own supply of vast ideas brings,
 And with a strength the loftiest flight to raise,
 It gives the genius, while it imp's his wings.

No fear of o'er-exalting sure his merit,
 To whom our drama its existence owes;
 Production rare of his creative spirit,
 From chaos into form and life it rose.

Ere his career of glory he begun
 The stage in dreary, dark confusion lay,
 'Till his great genius rising, like the sun,
 Dispell'd the night, and gave, at once, the day.

What fire! what native energy of thought
 Glows in his lines, and animates his scenes!
 With true sublime how his expression fraught,
 Attains the greatest ends by justest means!

Still, still he lives! immortally to shine,
 The great defender of the British tongue:
 That language to preserve who would not join,
 In which with so much pow'r a SHAKESPEARE sung?

What though pale critics might some faults esp'y,
 The nobly grateful spurn th' ill-natur'd light,
 And with a welcome bandage o'er the eye
 In honor to their taste, reject such sight.

* The author of this Ode observes, that some prefatory apology may be necessary for introducing French dramatic authors; but, says he, the provocation from the unfair hostilities exercised against our favourite poet by that nation, may well excuse the revival of the ancient custom of sacrificing enemies at the games celebrated in honour of a hero.

Some errors too might beauty-spots appear,
 And serve, like shades, the more the lights to raise;
 Or from judicious view would vanish clear,
 Lost in the splendor of the ambient blaze.

Born as our bard was with the clearest head,
 And best of hearts, who does not plainly see
 That forc'd to follow as the fashion led,
 The times! the times were more in fault than he?

In vain the French, through rivalry, unjust,
 Erect their cavils on so false a ground;
 But vainer yet, to their own poets trust,
 On whom the claim of excellence they found.

*" Soaring, in pompous sounds, above the spheres,
 " CORNEILLE's the thunder-bearing bird of Jove;
 " In tender love-sick strains RACINE appears,
 " The Dove of Venus cooing in the grove."*

But what are these tame shackled sons of art,
 Compar'd to SHAKESPEARE, Nature's darling child,
 Who with such strong emotions strikes the heart,
 Above all rules, magnificently wild?

The bards of France could only statues make,
 Well modell'd, polish'd, but as cold as death,
 No character of force their passions take,
 Nor yet of life afford a single breath.

Our British poet could, Prometheus like,
 Give to his works the touch of heav'nly fire,
 Glowing with which, they live, they move, they strike
 With all the pathos Genius can inspire.

To SHAKESPEARE then triumphal honour's due,
 Who, friend to art, tho' he disdain'd its chains,
 From Nature's endless stores his models drew,
 And, in her sight, for ever victor reigns.

Then solemn be this day to that lov'd name
 So much above or Time's, or Envy's rage,
 While Britain, nobly faithful to his fame,
 Records her gratitude from age to age.

Nor should that patriot spirit be forgot,
 Who, when great Shakespeare's self was near disgrac'd,
 The nation sav'd from that eternal blot,
 And brought to life again a dying taste.

The Swan of Avon's stream emerg'd once more,
 Never to sink again : one actor's pow'rs,
 Could of his beauties a just sense restore,
 Urg'd by a zeal that well might kindle our's.
 Whoever loves, then, our immortal bard,
 Will never at that gratitude repine,
 Which, pleas'd, decrees it as a just reward,
 T'inscribe a GARRICK's name on SHAKESPEARE's shrine.

O D E *,

For the Fifth of November.

S T R O P H E.

WHERE woods the hoary cliffs embrown,
 Wild waving o'er the dizzy steep,
 Whose shaggy sides impetuous down
 The glist'ning torrents rudely sweep ;
 A lofty pile usurps the sky !
 Whose mould'ring turrets not from high,
 With creeping ivy twin'd around,
 Oft in the happier days of Rome,
 Mad orgies shook the vaulted dome,
 The pealing groves rebellow to the sound.
 Down rapid Tiber's echoing banks it flies,
 Where Rome's imperial spires in proud arrangement rise.

A N T I S T R O P H E.

Hark ! what unusual tumult wakes
 The long-hush'd thunders of the fane !
 Again the pealing forest shakes,
 The vaulted dome resounds again.
 Ah ! see a ghastly train
 Emerging from the hollow blaze,
 Which gilds the horrors of the gloom,
 And all th' infernal scene betrays.
 Muttering words of awful doom,
 With hurried step, and threat'ning mein,
 Fanaticism, sable tinctur'd queen,
 Shoots frenzy from her sparkling eyes ;
 Ambition stalks before with bloody plume,
 And points the terrors of his gleaming lance.
 In ermine veil'd, behind her, sighs
 Hypocrisy, enrapt in mystic trance,
 Thrice waves the magic circle of her rod--
 Thrice bows her triple crown with dire majestic nod.

* *The author of this Ode is a Gentleman Commoner of Baliol College, Oxford.*

E P O D E.

" Now lowers the storm, the wildly cry'd,
 And murmurs o'er its mourning prey,
 And flings eruptive ruin wide,
 To blast the rosy smiles of day.
 Where roars the proud Atlantic surge,
 And tow'ring billows urge,
 To lash Britannia's rocky shore,
 There lurking Vengeance sternly scowls,
 And there Sedition panting prowls,
 To quaff her tears and streaming gore."

S T R O P H E.

" Mourn, ye Sons of Albion, mourn,
 The laurel wreaths of glory torn,
 Whose verdure shades your haughty brows.
 On the swift wings of vict'ry borne,
 No more shall ride your lordly prowls
 Thro' the loud clamours of the raging deep.
 Weep! ye Sons of Albion, weep!
 No more shall wanton in the breeze afar,
 Your flutt'ring banners rear'd in ranks of war;
 Nor fate beam direful on your quiv'ring spear.
 The bounding fury curb'd, which wings its bold career."

A N T I S T R O P H E.

" Deep in the dun embow'ring grove,
 The abbey spreads its Gothic gloom:
 Far from the genial warmth of love
 The flow'r of beauty wastes its bloom.
 Prostrate, at the midnight knell,
 Repentance lifts to heav'n her sighs;
 Yet nerveless in the lonely cell,
 Virtue droops and vigour dies;
 The queen of ocean captive lies,
 And vainly checks th' indignant groan,
 And fiercely rolls her glaring eyes;
 While low she licks the dust of yonder throne,
 Whose sordid base the dusk of Tartarus shrouds,
 Whose tow'ring head is lost in shades of deepening clouds."

E P O D E.

Hark! what transport loads the gale!
 Around the voice of rapture rings;
 " Hail, ye sons of Albion, hail,
 Wake to joy the trembling strings;
 Rouse the dull ear of pale Despair.
 And smooth the frowns of brooding Care."

Ye,

Ye, whose patriot bosoms glow,
 Now bid the stream of pleasure flow ;
 Treason foams and gnaws her chain,
 Her blunted spear was hurl'd in vain ;
 With rage retorted bounds the blow,
 Which dreadful rose to whelm the state,
 Pois'd on the tott'ring verge of fate."
 Scar'd at the sound, the fury shrinks,
 And swift to Stygian darkness sinks ;
 Her train, on rattling pinions borne,
 Rush from the rosy smiles of morn.

S T A N Z A S *.

To the Memory of Lady PALMERSTON.

I.

C O M E, shepherds, let's join in the theme,
 Which sorrow has taught you to sing ;
 Stop the joys, stop the dance on the green,
 And cease ye to welcome the spring.

II.

Ye brooks, lend a tear to our woe,
 As in murmurs ye glide thro' the plain ;
 Ye zephyrs, that carelessly blow,
 Return a soft sigh to our pain.

III.

Ah ! great is the loss that we weep,
 In Palmerston fled from our view ;
 Tho' the crown of her virtues she'll reap,
 How sad was the parting adieu !

IV.

The purest of passions adorn'd
 Her soul, that was chaste as the dove ;
 Such a heart that so spotless was form'd,
 Was destin'd for angels above.

V.

Oh ! you, who her virtues have known,
 Come and list to the praises I sing ;
 Ah ! who hath such fortitude shown ?
 But how poor are the tributes we bring !

* *By Miss A. T-mk-ns of Southampton.*

VI.

Ye lillies, that droop o'er her tomb,
And revive the soft tears of the morn;
Ye roses, that fade at her doom,
Whom the sorrows of ev'ning adorn.

VII.

Bear witness to these my sad lays,
As pensive I heave the soft sigh;
Thus striving to sing in the praise,
Of an angel that dwelleth on high.

V E R S E S*,

In praise of a COUNTRY LIFE.

By Mr. SEYMOUR.

HOW blest is he, who far from noise
In rural scenes content enjoys!
His chearful hours unruffled flow,
Nor envy, nor ambition know.

A stranger to the modish town,
Its mid-night revels, noon-tide down;
He wastes in easy sleep the night,
And rises with the dawning light.

When groves exclude the genial ray,
The warmer plains invite to stray;
When plains expose to sultry heat,
The groves afford a cool retreat.—

Taught by the warbling birds to praise,
Blest is the man (who tunes his lays,
Like them) who leaves all meaner views,
And Nature's sacred call pursues.

While various blessings joy bestow,
He hails that source from whence they flow,
Which decks with lovely flow'rs the fields,
And hopes of plenteous harvest yields:

* *These verses, the Epitaph on a Sparrow, and the translation of the story of Arethusa, were written by the above gentleman at the age of sixteen. The two original pieces contain a pleasing simplicity; and in the translation he has followed Ovid with great exactness. We do not think them bad specimens of a poetical genius; which, if properly cultivated and encouraged, may one day arrive at the utmost height of Parnassus' lofty summit. Their not having been published before, is a sufficient apology for their having a place in this work.*

Or thanks the bounteous hand that gave
 To quench his thirst, the chrystal wave,
 And yearly hangs the bending trees,
 With blooming fruits that tempt to seize.—
 Where'er he turns, still something new
 Engages his admiring view ;
 Nor ends his strain till day retires,
 And that return'd again inspires.

E P I T A P H,
 On a S P A R R O W.

BENEATH this turf to mould'ring dust consign'd,
 Here lies a Sparrow of the gentle kind.
 Knotted with sorrows was the thread he spun,
 And rudely sever'd ere 'twas well begun ;
 Just as his feeble wings with trembling care
 Had learn'd to spread and flutter in the air.
 Ah ! if, 'till stronger, thou hadst not essay'd,
 To stranger's hands thou hadst not been betray'd.
 Whether that day he left his mother's view,
 Or in her absence from the nest withdrew,
 Or whatsoever chance produc'd this ill,
 A champion of like race, with hostile bill,
 Pursued his flight, and levell'd with the ground,
 Where panting terrified, he first was found.
 What then thou felt thy drooping looks could tell,
 When freedom, parents, home, thou badst farewell.
 To a small compass soon thou wast confin'd,
 Nor treated there according to thy kind.
 Two days he linger'd out a living death,
 And on the third resign'd his painful breath.
 This little spot, beneath a spreading tree.
 (A hapless shade !) I dedicate to thee !
 May no rude instrument molest thy peace,
 Nor daring foot this eminence decrease :
 Here shall the earliest fairest, flow'rets grow,
 And on the winds the sweetest scents bestow.

The S T O R Y of A R E T H U S A.

From the Fifth Book of OVID'S METAMORPHOSES.

ONE of th' Achaian nymphs I was, said she,
 Nor any could more studious be than me,
 The sports of hunting with the rest to share,
 Nor yet more studious be to plant the snare.

Of

Of beauty, tho' I never fought the fame,
 (Tho' young) of being fair I had the name;
 But thro' simplicity with pain I heard,
 The lavish praises on my face conferr'd,
 For charms which might in others envy raise,
 I blush'd, and thought it was a crime to please.
 Once I remember, as with weary pace,
 I left Stympalus' forest and the chace,
 The air was sultry-hot, and from the toil
 Redoubled rage, it gain'd my strength to foil;
 A smoothly gliding, silent stream I found,
 Clear were its waters to the very ground;
 The pebbles you might count that lay below,
 Yet scarce could think it mov'd, it mov'd so slow.
 Tall poplars, nourish'd by the oozing tide,
 And hoary willows grew on ev'ry side;
 And in return, spontaneously display'd,
 Along its shelving banks, a grateful shade.
 Advancing nearer in the chrystal wave,
 At first I dip my feet, and then I lave
 Up to my knees; but not content with this,
 My airy covering I next dismiss,
 And on a ready bending osier hung,
 I naked in the placid waters sprung;
 Which, while my spreading arms strike from me now,
 (Then inward drawn) a freer tide allow;
 Then at a distance with a jerk I throw,
 And in a thousand ways move to and fro.
 A sound unknown within the stream I hear,
 And seek the nearest bank, impell'd by fear:
 Where fliest, *Arethusa*? *Alpheus* said,
 Where fliest (in hoarse murmurs) lovely maid?
 I run without my garments as before,
 (For they were left upon the other shore)
 But burning more the fiercer he pursues,
 He thinks me readier as he naked views.
 As when the trembling doves their pinions ply,
 To shun the hawk, so swift from him I fly;
 As when the hawk, the trembling doves in chace,
 So swift he follows me with furious pace;
 Till we *Orchomenus* and *Psophis*' fields,
Cyllene, *Mænalus* that vallies yields,
 Cold *Erymanthus* had and *Elis* gain'd,
 Tho' too unequal, I the flight sustain'd:
 Not that his swiftness greater was than mine,
 But weakness made me soon the race decline;
 His strength superior, might success ensure,
 Well-fitted labour, unfatigu'd, t'end us;

Yet I o'er plains and woody mountains fled,
 Rocks too, and cliffs, and where no way was led.
 The sun declining shone with fainter heat
 Behind my back, when just before my feet,
 I saw a long extended shadow go,
 Unless my terror made me fancy so ;
 But I am sure the sound of steps I hear,
 And feel his breath, as still he draws more near,
 Blow (on my neck) the string that ties my hair.
 And now so faint, I can no farther fly,
 Help, O *Diana*, or I'm caught, I cry !
 Help her, who honour'd oft by thee hath bore
 Thy bow and quiver, with its dang'rous store !
 The Goddess mov'd, a thick cloud o'er me threw,
 The river fought me cover'd from his view ;
 With darkness now, and ign'rant where I was,
 About the hollow cloud in search he goes ;
 Unknowing, twice where I was hid he came,
 And twice each time he call'd upon my name.
 Judge then, my state, such care my mind involves,
 As the penn'd lamb that hears surrounding wolves ;
 Or such, when dogs with hostile mouths appear,
 As in the bush restrains the tim'rous hare.
 He quits, and as he could no farther trace
 My steps, but watches both the cloud and place :
 A chilling sweat spreads o'er my straiten'd limbs,
 With drops of sea-green hue my body swims ;
 Where'er I move, my feet a lake there grows,
 A dewy fountain from my tresses flows ;
 And sooner than I now relate my doom,
 Entirely chang'd a river I become.—
 But still, *Alpheus*, his lov'd water knew,
 And from him now, his late disguise he threw ;
 The human form unapt for his design
 He took his own, to mingle waves with mine.
 In caverns lost, where *Delia* clove the ground.
 I run secure 'till at *Ortygia* found ;
 Which dear from her by whom 'tis held in sway,
 First resalutes me with the welcome day *.

* As we have given this story a place here, we think it may be useful to give an explication of it.

Bochart conjectures, that the Phœnicians who went to settle in Sicily, seeing the fountain *Arethusa* surrounded with willows, called it *En-halphe*, or *Halphaja*. that is, The Fountain of Willows. Perhaps too, says the same author, they gave it the name of *En-alphe*, or *Alphaja*, The Fountain of Ships ; because, as this fountain was in the island of *Ortygia*,

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REFLECTIONS ON A CLEAN SHIRT.

HAIL bright invention! by whose friendly aid
 This shirt once more so decently is made!
 Goddess of arts and industry, arise,
 Assert thy legal empire in the skies;
 With smiles behold the salutary rub,
 And crown the labours of the *daily* tub,
 But bless that friend to Covent-Garden bloods,
 Who first invented proper soap and suds.
 This only shirt, occasionally white,
 May now appear, Lucinda, in thy sight:
 The Park once more with credit it may view,
 Nor shrink behind the fable of its hue:
 An added air of decency disclose,
 And meet respect from Tomkins or the Rose:
 Some friend, perhaps, may take it home to dine,
 And treat its master with a gill of wine.
 Thanks to my stars, it does not look so meah,
 But seems tol-lol, and comfortably clean.

Genius of true benevolence, arise,
 And mark this æra, with indignant eyes,
 Where fools are rais'd to livings and to place,
 And want of honour dignifies his grace.
 Where dress, in triumph by the follies led,
 Sets off the mean and despicable head;

on the sea-shore near the entry of the famous harbour of Syracuse, the ships used to take in fresh water here. Others gave it the name of Arith, which signifies a Brook. The likeness of the names made the Greeks, that come into Sicily long after the Phœnicians, imagine that this fountain deriv'd its source from the river Alpheus, in the country of Elis in Greece; and on this foundation did they build their fable of the amours of Alpheus, the god of that river, with Arethusa. Hence that long course they make their river take thro' subterraneous channels to meet his mistress and mix his streams with her's. And Pausanias informs us, that Alpheus delighted much in hunting, and was passionately in love with Arethusa: that the nymph being fond of nothing but hunting, would not marry him, and to avoid his courtship, retired into the island of Ortygia, near Syracuse, and was there changed into a fountain, and her lover into a river. And though this writer looks upon this as a fable, yet he thinks there is nothing incredible in the circumstance of the river Alpheus's running through the sea and afterwards falling into the fountain Arethusa; and he grounds his opinion chiefly on an answer given by the Delphic oracle to Archias the Corinthian, ordering him to lead a colony to Syracuse: "Beyond Sicily, says the Oracles, lies an island in the middle of the sea: it is called Ortygia, and here Alpheus mixes his streams with the fair Arethusa."

And taudry lace finds out the happy art
 To gild the sordid baseness of the heart.—
 Why did I learn, in these degen'rate days,
 To run from solid pudding after praise?
 To hold the mirror to a rascal's eyes.
 And lash a rev'rend villain in disguise?
 O that the stars his bosom could create
 Low as my lot, and humble as my fate!
 Without one speak of animating fire,
 One wish refin'd, or elegant desire!
 Then had I pass'd in opulence my days,
 And felt advancement's salutary rays;
 Had known the utmost value of an hour,
 And lick'd the footstool of superior pow'r:
 A villain's crimes had flatter'd and excus'd,
 Smil'd when he smil'd; and when he frown'd, abus'd;
 On modest worth had insolently trod,
 Traduc'd my friend, and scandaliz'd my God.

These, these, alas! are now the only ways
 To gain preferment, or to rise to praise;
 These methods now support the meanest cause,
 And purchase favour, friendship, and applause:
 The vilest slave that infamy can brand,
 Or midnight murder blacken with a hand,
 Who basely triumph'd o'er the widow's fears,
 And laugh'd at helpless innocence in tears;
 Whose very wife, with prostituted charms,
 He took, all reeking, from licentious arms,
 And ow'd a mean or despicable place,
 To something more than credible disgrace.
 Dress him but well, his company's desir'd,
 His life approv'd, his character admir'd;
 Protection smiles complacently on high,
 And favour views him with its fondest eye;
 Till, by degrees, to dignity he grows,
 And soars to honour basely as he rose.

Far other fate on modest worth attends,
 Of means bereft, and destitute of friends;
 In this wide world by fortune set afloat,
 The poor possessor of—an only coat;
 Yet nobly scorns by intamy to please,
 Or rise by steps so scandalous as these.
 Taste to his wants no liberty allows,
 But stares to see, and reddens if he bows:
 And not alone regardless of his guise,
 Affects to laugh, and publicly despise.

The

The choice companions of his happier days,
 Salute with pride's most despicable gaze ;
 Refuse to sooth the sharpness of distress,
 And blush to meet his shabbiness of dress.
 In vain the poor afflicted is possess'd
 Of all the virtues of the human breast ;
 In vain he's honest, sensible, and kind,
 Politely bred, and modestly refin'd :—
 No eye that shuns, munificent bestows
 A means to purge the scandal of his cloathes ;
 No feeling breast the least assistance lends,
 Because he *needs* the bounty of his friends ;
 In vain 'tis known how greatly he has griev'd,
 Because, alas ! he *wants* to be reliev'd !

Yet humble merit never should despair,
 But learn to feel, and study how to bear.
 Implicit rev'rence the almighty will,
 Nor always think that poverty's an ill.
 Be less expert to wound its own repose,
 Nor strive to raise imaginary woes.
 If means of wealth and honour are deny'd,
 No world will envy or condemn his pride ;
 No fawning slave a feign'd respect will pay,
 Appear to smile, and study to betray.
 No mind ambitious insolently blame,
 Traduce his deeds, and vilify his fame :
 If Heav'n's high wisdom has been pleas'd to shed
 The humble means to furnish him with bread ;
 The rising sigh should swell his heart no more,
 Or only heave to worship and adore.
 Less true content, magnificently dress'd,
 The ermin'd wretch finds center'd in his breast ;
 Who owes his boasted consequence and rise,
 To steps which truth and virtue should despise :
 Doom'd by the justice of avenging fate,
 To sigh in splendor, and to pine in state,
 Her sharpest woes eternal conscience brings,
 And wakens guilt, to aggravate his stings ;
 Reflection haunts him in her dread extremes,
 And spreads distraction through his midnight dreams ;
 His flight pursues and follows him behind,
 To murder all the comforts of his mind.—
 While peace holds watch on lowly virtue's door,
 And shares some pleasure to the worthy poor ;
 Her freshest roses on their pillows strews,
 And nightly crowns it with a safe repose ;
 Preserves a calm tranquillity from hurt,
 And gives contentment to an *only shirt*.

*The IMMORTALITY OF THE MUSES.**By the late DANIEL HAYES, Esq.*

FLY Envy, fly to hell's detested gloom,
 Nor more t'asperse th' immortal Muse presume;
 Th' immortal Muse on Fame's proud pinion flies
 Above the croud, and claims her native skies.

Wealth's gaudy charms, the statesman's subtle scheme,
 The pomp of princes, and the warrior's flame;
 Arts that now flourish, sciences that strain
 The vent'rous wing to yon ethereal plain,
 And calm philosophy, whose eye explores
 Nature's deep womb, and opes her secret stores;
 All these must feel the general decay,
 Melt in the stream of years, and glide away.

The Nine alone can deathless fame bestow;
 From these pure founts immortal honours flow.
 See Milton's Muse th' unfathom'd depths explore
 Of sable-vested night, and chaos hoar;
 Thence bursting glorious bend her rapid way
 Thro' the bright regions of eternal day,
 Set heav'n's rebellious host in impious arms,
 And fill the firmament with loud alarms;
 Whilst red in wrath Messiah's arm appears,
 And treble thunders rock the tottering spheres;
 'Till hurl'd at once from heav'n's stupendous brow,
 Fall the crush'd legions to the deep below;
 Bless'd that these gulphs and lakes of livid fire,
 Shield from the fury of th' almighty Sire.

Next daring Shakespear strikes the ravish'd soul,
 And whirls us in a trice from pole to pole;
 Unmasks the traitor, bids the hero rise,
 And pluck bright virtue from the distant skies;
 Or, soft descending, opes the human heart,
 While living nature speaks in ev'ry part.
 What peals of laughter shake th' applauding pit,
 At Pistol's phrase and Falstaff's peerless wit!
 What bursting sighs, what mighty sorrows flow,
 At great Othello's more than mortal woe!
 Who can the soft, the pleasing anguish quell,
 When tender Juliet breathes her sad farewell!

Sweet Spenser next the captive fancy leads
 To 'chanted castles, and enamell'd meads,
 Where courteous knights in magic fetters lie,
 And wail their woes to black eternity.

But

But lo! where all begirt with ruffian bands,
 In conscious pride majestic Dryden stands,
 As erst Britannia's martyr'd monarch stood
 Th' outrageous insults of a sordid brood:
 Who taught our rugged numbers just degrees,
 To swell with pomp, or flow with manly ease;
 Who won each crown the sacred hill betwixt,
 And op'd the scene reserv'd for Pope to close:
 Oh shame to Genius! life's long journey quits,
 Oppress'd by fools, and scorn'd by wanton wits.

Pierian maids, whose sacred fires controul
 My panting breast, and ravish all my soul,
 Rouse my faint fires, your sacred raptures lend,
 Whilst low at Pope's imperial shrine I bend.
 O heav'nly bard! endow'd with ev'ry art,
 To melt the soul, and captivate the heart:
 On thy bless'd lays the Loves and Graces hung,
 Breath'd on thy lips, and dwelt upon thy tongue.
 Amaz'd we fancy thy Cecilia sings,
 Inspires the harp, and strikes the silver strings;
 While in sweet measures thy mellifluous song
 Harmonious rolls, and steals the sense along.
 If lofty themes thy swelling numbers roar,
 Loud as the waves that lash the sounding shore;
 Or soft reclin'd along the silver Thame,
 Flocks, groves, and swains you consecrate to fame.

In Otway's page the tender'ft flame we see;
 And fire-ey'd Fury foams in mighty Lee.

While truth, mortality, and wisdom rove,
 With pensive Cowley through the silent grove,
 Skilful he spreads each various plant to view,
 Whose tender pores imbibe the morning dew:
 Or thron'd aloft in Pindar's fiery car,
 Rides thro' the æther like a moving star,
 Whose sweepy fires o'er heav'n's wide concave glow,
 And strike amazement thro' the crowd below.

Enchanting damsels, and enchanted swains,
 With rapture catch soft Waller's silky strains;
 Smooth as the murmurs of descending rills,
 Thro' ev'ry nerve the melting joy distils,
 'Till the coy virgin, chaf'd to keen desire,
 Transported sinks in love's consuming fire.

When Roman Sidney tunes the slender reeds,
 We dream of soft Arcadia's flow'ry meads:

But when great Denham's sounding numbers fill,
We think Arcadia chang'd to Cooper's hill.

Who doats on art and nature's choicest gift,
May see the mighty treasure join'd in Swift.
Swift, whose firm soul espous'd a nation's cause,
To ruin destin'd, and betray'd by laws;
Now with the blest his blameless spirit dwell,
On earth his fame the race of man excels.

If justest satire charms the honest ear,
First of the train, see Dorset's Muse appear,
Poet and patron long he reign'd confest,
Foe to each vice, friend to each worth distress.

Nor less severely Wilmot's numbers sting,
Those early numbers nipt in youth's fair spring:
O early fallen! did Heav'n extend thy days,
That Heav'n alone could bound thy deathless praise:
A stronger genius never warm'd the breast;
A fairer, none of human race possess'd;
Wit saw in thee her last great champion fled,
And selfish dulness rear th' exulting head;
Saw to your tomb the weeping Loves descend,
And each sad Muse the useless lyre suspend.

Engaging grace and energy divine,
Sparkle in Buckingham's melodious line;
Fancy and sense bright Lankdown reconcil'd,
And Gay, tho' manly, pleases ev'ry child.

Who can my Congreve's polish'd scenes forget,
While pointed di'logue charms, or keenest wit?
Fletcher's quick fire, or Beaumont's calmer sense,
With gentle Suckling's milder influence?
For these, alas! long lost, we now may grieve,
Did not their various graces still survive,
Whilst Doric eloquence from Macon flows,
And Juvenal's bright flame in Johnson glows;
Tibullus, Gallus, Ovid, all display
Their softer beauties in immortal Gray.

The COMPLAINT of ARIADNE, out of CATULLUS.

By R. GARDINER.

The poet, in the Epithalamium of Peleus and Thetis, describes the genial bed on which was wrought the story of Theseus and Ariadne, and on that occasion makes a long digression ; part of which is the subject of the following poem.

THERE, on th' extremest beach and farthest sand,
 Deserted Ariadne seem'd to stand,
 New wak'd, and raving with her love, she flew
 To the dire shore, from whence she might pursue
 With longing eyes, (but all, alas! in vain)
 The winged bark o'er the tempestuous main ;
 For bury'd in fallacious sleep she lay,
 While thro' the waves false Theseus cut his way,
 Regardless of her fate who sav'd his youth,
 Winds bore away his promise and his truth,
 Like some wild Bacchanal, unmov'd she stood,
 And with fix'd eyes survey'd the raging flood.
 There, with alternate waves, the sea shall roll,
 Nor less the tempest that distracts her soul :
 Abandon'd to the winds, her flowing hair
 Rage in her soul express'd, and wild despair ;
 Her rising breasts with indignation swell,
 And her loose robes disdainfully repel.
 The shining ornaments that dress'd her head,
 When with the glorious ravisher she fled,
 Now at their mistress' feet neglected lay,
 Sport with the wanton waves that with them play :
 But the nor them regards, nor waves, that beat
 Her snowy legs, and wound her tender feet ;
 On Theseus her lost senses all attend,
 And all the passions of her soul depend.
 Long did her weaker sense contend in vain,
 She sunk, at last, beneath the mighty pain ;
 With various ills beset, and stupid grown,
 She lost the power those ills e'en to bemoan :
 But when the first assaults and fierce surprize
 Were past, and grief had found a passage at her eyes,
 With cruel hands her snowy breast she wounds ;
 Theseus, in vain, thro' all the shore resounds.
 Now, urg'd by love, she plunges in the main,
 And now draws back her tender feet again.
 Thrice she repeats the vain attempt to wade :
 Thrice fear and cold her shiv'ring limbs invade :
 Fainting at last, she hung her beauteous head,
 And, fixing on the shore her eyes, she said,

Ah,

Ah, cruel man ! and did I leave, for thee,
 My parents, friends (for thou wert all to me) ;
 And is my love, and is my faith thus paid ?
 O cruelty unheard, a wretched maid,
 Here, on a naked shore, abandon'd and betray'd !
 Betray'd to mischiefs of which death's the least,
 And plung'd in ills too great to be express'd :
 Yet the gods will, the gods condemn'd by you,
 With vengeance thy devoted ship pursue ;
 O'ertake thy sails, and rack thy guilty breast,
 And with new plagues th' ill omen'd flight infect.
 But tho' no pity thy stern breast could move,
 Nor angry gods, nor ill-requited love,
 Yet sense of honour sure should touch thy heart,
 And shame from low unmanly flight divert.
 With other hopes my easy faith you fed,
 A glorious triumph and a marriage-bed ;
 But all these joys, with thee, alas ! are fled.
 Let no vain woman vows and oaths believe,
 They only with more form and pomp deceive.
 To compass their lewd ends, the wretches swear,
 Of oaths profuse, nor gods nor temples spare ;
 But when enjoy'd —————
 Nor broken vows, nor angry Heav'n they fear.
 But, oh ? ye women, warn'd by me, be wise ;
 Turn their false oaths on them, their arts, their lies :
 Dissemble, fawn, weep, swear when you betray ;
 Defeat the gamesters at their own foul play.
 Oh banished faith ! But now from certain death
 I snatch'd the wretch, and sav'd his perjur'd breath ;
 His life with my own brother's blood I bought,
 And love by such a cruel service sought :
 By me preserv'd, yet me he does betray,
 And to wild beasts expose an easy prey ?
 Nor thou of royal race, nor human stock
 Wert born, but nurs'd by bears, and issu'd from a rock ;
 Too plain thou dost thy dire extraction prove,
 Whose death for life return'd, and hate for love.
 Yet he securely sails, and I in vain
 Recall the fled, and to deaf rocks complain :
 Unmov'd they stand ; yet, could they see and hear,
 More humane would than cruel man appear,
 But I —————
 Must the said pleasure of compassion want,
 And die unheard, and lose my last complaint,
 Happy, ye gods, too happy had I liv'd,
 Hadst thou, O charming stranger, ne'er arriv'd.

Dissembled sweetness in thy look did shine ;
 But ah ! th' inhuman monster lurk'd within.
 What more remains ? or whom shall I implore
 In a wild isle, on a deserted shore ?
 Shall I return, and beg my father's * aid ?
 My father's, whom ungrateful I betray'd,
 And with my brother's cruel murderer fled ?
 But, Theseus, Ariadne's constant, kind,
 Kind as the seas, and constant as the wind.
 See, wretched maid, vast seas around thee roar,
 And angry waves lash the resounding shore,
 Cut off thy hopes, and intercept thy flight,
 No ship appears to bless thy longing sight ;
 The dismal isle no human footsteps bears,
 But a sad silence doubles all my fears,
 And fate, in all its dreadful shapes, appears ;
 Ev'n fainting nature scarce maintains the strife,
 Betwixt prevailing death and yielding life :
 Yet, 'ere I die, revenging gods I'll call,
 And curse him first, and then contented fall.
 Ascend, ye furies then, ascend and hear
 My last complaints, and grant my dying pray'r,
 Which grief and rage, for ill rewarded love,
 And the deep sense of his injustice move ;
 Oh ! suffer not my latest words to fly
 Like common air, and disregarded die ?
 With vengeance his dire treachery pursue,
 For vengeance, goddesses, attends on you :
 Terror with you, despair, and death appear,
 And all the frightful forms the guilty fear :
 May his proud ship, by furious billows tofs'd,
 On rocks, or some wild shore, like this, be lost ;
 There may he fall, or late returning see
 (If so the gods, and so the fates decree)
 A mournful house, polluted by the dead,
 And furies wait on his incestuous † bed.
 Jove heard, and did the just request approve,
 And nodding, shook earth, seas, and all the radiant lights above.

* Minos, *King of Crete.*

† *He carried away her sister.*

Ah, cruel man ! and did I leave, for thee,
 My parents, friends (for thou wert all to me) ;
 And is my love, and is my faith thus paid ?
 O cruelty unheard, a wretched maid,
 Here, on a naked shore, abandon'd and betray'd !
 Betray'd to mischiefs of which death's the least,
 And plung'd in ills too great to be exprest :
 Yet the gods will, the gods contemn'd by you,
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 O'er take thy sails, and rack thy guilty breast,
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 May his proud ship, by furious billows toss'd,
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* Minos, *King of Crete.*

† *He carried away her sister.*

S O N G S

Sung at the Jubilee in honour of Shakespeare.

WARWICKSHIRE. A SONG *. By Mr. G——.

YE Warwickshire lads and ye lasses,
See what at our Jubilee passes;
Come revel away, rejoice and be glad,
For the lad of all lads, was a Warwickshire lad,
Warwickshire lad,
All be glad,

For the lad of all lads, was a Warwickshire lad.

Be proud of the charms of your county,
Where nature has lavish'd her bounty,
Where much she has giv'n, and some to be spar'd,
For the bard of all bards, was a Warwickshire bard,
Warwickshire bard,
Never pair'd,

For the bard of all bards, was a Warwickshire bard.

Each shire has its different pleasures,
Each shire has its different treasures;
But to rare Warwickshire all must submit,
For the wit of all wits, was a Warwickshire wit,
Warwickshire wit,
How he writ!

For the wit of all wits, was a Warwickshire wit.

Old Ben, Thomas Otway, John Dryden,
And half a score more we take pride in,
Of famous Will Congreve we boast too the skill,
But the Will of all Wills, was a Warwickshire Will,
Warwickshire Will,
Matchless still,

For the Will of all Wills, was a Warwickshire Will.

Our Shakespeare compar'd is to no man,
Nor Frenchman, nor Grecian, nor Roman,
Their swans are all geese to the Avon's sweet swan,
And the man of all men, was a Warwickshire man,
Warwickshire man,
Avon's swan,

And the man of all men, was a Warwickshire man.

* *This song is sung by Mr. Vernon and Mr. Dibdin, in the entertainment of the Jubilee, in the characters of a man and woman ballad-singers.*

As ven'fon is very inviting,
 To steal it our bard took delight in,
 To make his friends merry he never was lag,
 And the wag of all wags, was a Warwickshire wag,
 Warwickshire wag,
 Ever brag,
 For the wag of all wags, was a Warwickshire wag.
 There was never seen such a creature,
 Of all she was worth, he robb'd nature ;
 He took all her smiles, and he took all her grief,
 And the thief of all thieves, was a Warwickshire thief,
 Warwickshire thief,
 He's the chief,
 For the thief of all thieves, was a Warwickshire thief.

SHAKESPEARE'S MULBERRY-TREE.

** Sung by Mr. Vernon, with a Cup in his Hand made of the Tree.*

By Mr. G——.

BEHOLD this fair goblet, 'twas carv'd from the tree,
 Which, O my sweet Shakespeare, was planted by thee :
 As a relic I kiss it, and bow at the shrine,
 What comes from thy hand must be ever divine !
 All shall yield to the mulberry-tree.
 Bend to thee
 Blest mulberry,
 Matchless was he,
 Who planted thee,
 And thou like him immortal be !
 Ye trees of the forest, so rampant and high,
 Who spread round their branches, whose heads sweep the sky.
 Ye curious exotics, whom taste has brought here,
 To root out the natives, at prices so dear,
 All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c.
 The oak is held royal, is Britain's great boast,
 Preserv'd once our king, and will always our coast ;
 But of fir we make ships, we have thousands that fight ;
 While one, only one, like our Shakespeare can write,
 All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c.
 Let Venus delight in her gay myrtle bowers,
 Pomona in fruit-trees, and Flora in flowers,
 The garden of Shakespeare all fancies will suit,
 With the sweetest of flowers, and fairest of fruit,
 All shall yield to the mulberry tree, &c.

** This is also introduced in the entertainment of the Jubilee.*

With

With learning and knowledge the well-letter'd birch,
 Supplies law and physic, and grace for the church :
 But law and the gospel in Shakespeare we find,
 And he gives the best physic for body and mind.
 All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c.

The fame of the patron gives fame to the tree,
 From him and his merits this takes its degree ;
 Let Phœbus and Bacchus their glories resign,
 Our tree shall surpass both the laurel and vine.
 All shall yield to the mulberry tree, &c.

The genius of Shakespeare outshines the bright day,
 More rapture than wine to the heart can convey,
 So the tree which he planted, by making his own,
 Has laurel, and bays, and the vine all in one,
 All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c.

Then each take a relic of this hallow'd tree,
 From folly and passion a charm let it be ;
 Fill, fill to the planter, the cup to the brim,
 To honour the country, do honour to him,
 All shall yield to the mulberry-tree,

Bend to thee,
 Blest mulberry,
 Matchless was he,
 Who planted thee,

And thou like him immortal be !

S W E E T * W I L L Y O.

A S O N G †.

By Mr. G——.

I.

THE pride of all nature was sweet *Willy O*,
 The first of all swains,
 He gladden'd the plains,
 None ever was like to sweet *Willy O*.

II.

He sung it so rarely, did sweet *Willy O*,
 He melted each maid,
 So skilful he play'd,
 No shepherd e'er pip'd like sweet *Willy O*.

* SHAKESPEARE.

† Sung in the entertainment of the Jubilee, by Mrs. Baddeley in the character of a country girl.

III. All

III.

All Nature obey'd him, this sweet *Willy O*,
 Wherever he came,
 Whate'er had a name,
 Whenever he sung follow'd sweet *Willy O*.

IV.

He wou'd be a * soldier, this sweet *Willy O*,
 When arm'd in the field,
 With sword and with shield.
 The laurel was won by the sweet *Willy O*.

V.

He charm'd 'em when living, the sweet *Willy O*,
 And when *Willy* dy'd,
 'Twas Nature that sigh'd,
 To part with her all in her sweet *Willy O*.

The C O U N T R Y G I R L.

A Comic Serenata. By Mr. G——.

R E C I T A T I V O.

PRITHEE tell me, cousin Sue,
 Why they make so much to do,
 Why all this noise and clatter?
 Why all this hurry, all this bustle,
 Law how they crowd, and bawl and juffle!
 I cauno' gues's the matter.

For whom must all this pother be?
 The Emperor of Garmanee,
 Or Great Mogul is coming;
 Such eating, drinking, dancing, singing,
 Such cannon firing, bells a-ringing,
 Such trumpetting and drumming!

A I R.

All this for a poet—O no—
 Who liv'd Lord knows how long ago?
 How can you jeer one,
 How can you fleeer one,
 A poet, a poet, O no,
 'Tis not so.
 Who liv'd Lord knows how long ago:

* *Writer of Tragedy.*

It

It must be some great man,
 A prince, or a state-man,
 It can't be a poet—O no :
 Your poet is poor,
 And nobody sure,
 Regards a poor poet I trow :
 The rich ones we prize
 Send 'em up to the skies,
 But not a poor poet—O no—
 Who liv'd Lord knows how long ago.

R E C I T A T I V O.

Yet now I call to mind,
 Our learned doctor boasted,
 One SHAKSPUR did of all mankind,
 Receive from Heav'n the most head.—
 That he could wonders do,
 And did 'em o'er and o'er ;
 Raise sprites, and lay 'em too,
 The like ne'er seen before.
 A conjurer was he !
 Who with a pen in hand,
 Had earth, and air, and sea,
 And all things at command.

A I R.

I.

O'er each heart he was a ruler.
 Made 'em warmer or cooler,
 Could make 'em to laugh or to cry.
 What we lock'd in our breasts,
 Tho' as close as in chests,
 Was not hid from the conjurer's eye.
 Tho' sins I have none,
 I am glad he is gone,
 No maid could live near such a mon.

II.

If he saw ye, he knew ye,
 Would look thro' and thro' ye,
 Thro' skin, and your flesh and your cloaths ;
 Had you vanity, pride,
 Fifty follies beside,
 He would see 'em, as plain as your nose :
 Tho' sins I have none.
 I am glad he is gone ;
 No maid would live near such a mon.

III. Let

III.

Let us sing it, and dance it,
 Rejoice it, and prance it,
 That no man has now such an art ;
 What would come of us all,
 Both the great ones and small,
 Should he live to peep now in each heart :
 Tho' sins I have none,
 I am glad he is gone,
 No maid could live near such a mon.

R O U N D E L A Y,

By Mr. J——.

SISTERS of the tuneful strain !
 Attend your parent's jocund train,
 'Tis Fancy calls you, follow me,
 To celebrate the Jubilee.

On Avon's banks where Shakespeare's bust
 Points out, and guards his sleeping dust,
 The sons of Scenic mirth decree
 To celebrate this Jubilee.

* By Garrick led the grateful band
 Haste to their poets native land,
 With rites of sportive revelry,
 To celebrate his Jubilee.

* Come daughters then, and with you bring
 The vocal reed, and sprightly string,
 Wit and Joke, and repartee,
 To celebrate our Jubilee.

Come daughters come, and bring with you
 Th' Aerial sprite and fairy crew,
 And the sister-graces three,
 To celebrate our Jubilee.

Hang around the sculptur'd tomb
 The broider'd vest, the nodding plume,
 And the mask of comic glee,
 To celebrate our Jubilee.

From Birnam wood, and Bosworth's field
 Bring the standard, bring the shield,
 With drums, and martial symphony,
 To celebrate our Jubilee.

In mournful numbers now relate
 Poor Desdemona's hapless fate,
 With frantic deeds of jealousy,
 To celebrate our Jubilee.
 Nor be Windsor's Wives forgot,
 With their harmless, merry plot,
 The whit'ning mead and haunted tree,
 To celebrate our Jubilee.
 Now in jocund strains recite
 The revels of the braggard knight,
 Fat knight ! and antient Pistol he !
 To celebrate our Jubilee.
 But see, in crowds, the gay, the fair,
 To the splended scene repair,
 A scene as fine, as fine can be,
 To celebrate our Jubilee.
 Yet Colin bring, and Rosalind,
 Each shepherd true and damsel kind,
 For well with hours, their sports agree,
 To crown the festive Jubilee.

N. B. *The stanzas marked with a * are omitted in the singing. This is the concluding song in the entertainment of the Jubilee.*

VERSES in the Character of a CORSICAN, at SHAKESPEARE'S JUBILEE, at Stratford upon-Avon, Sept. 6. 1769.

By JAMES BOSWELL, Esq.

FROM the rude banks of Golo's rapid flood,
 Alas ! too deeply ting'd with patriot blood ;
 O'er which dejected, injured Freedom bends,
 And sighs indignant o'er all Europe sends :
 Behold a *Corfican*——in better days,
 Eager I fought my country's fame to raise ;
 When o'er our camp *Paoli's* banners wav'd,
 And all the threats of hostile France we brav'd,
 'Till unassisted, a small nation fail'd,
 And our invaders tenfold force prevail'd,

Now when I'm exil'd from my native land,
 I come to join this classic festal band,
 To sooth my soul on *Avon's* sacred stream,
 And from your joy to catch a cheering gleam,
 To celebrate great *Shakespeare's* wond'rous fame,
 And add new trophies to the honour'd name
 Of Nature's bard, whom tho' your country bore,
 His influence spreads to every distant shore :

Wherever

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* Th
 and is

Wherever genuine feeling souls are found,
His "wood notes wild," with extasy resound.

Had *Shakespeare* liv'd our story to relate,
And hold his torch o'er our unhappy fate;
Liv'd with majestic energy to tell
How long we fought, what heroes nobly fell!
Had *Garrick*, who dame Nature's pencil stole,
Just where old *Shakespeare* dropt it, when his soul
Broke from his earthly cage aloft to fly,
To the eternal world of harmony;
Had *Garrick* shewn us on the tragic scene,
With fame embalm'd our deeds of death had been;
If from his eyes had flash'd the Corsic fire,
Men less had gaz'd to pity—than admire.

O happy *Britons*! on whose favour'd isle,
Propitious *Freedom* ever deigns to smile;
Whose fame is wafted on triumphant gales,
Where thunders war, or commerce spreads her sails.
I come not hither sadly to complain,
Or damp your mirth with melancholy strain;
In man's firm breast conceal'd the grief should lye,
Which melts with grace in woman's gentle eye;
But let me plead for *Liberty* distress'd,
And warm for her each sympathetic breast:
Amidst the splendid honours which you bear,
To save a sister island be your care:
With generous ardour make us also free;
And give to *Corsica*, a noble *Jubilee*!

ODE, performed at the Castle of Dublin, on Monday the 5th day of June, 1769, being the day appointed for celebrating the birth-day of his most Excellent and Sacred Majesty King George III*.

The Music compos'd by RICHARD HAY, Esq. Chief Composer and Master of the Music attending his Majesty's State in Ireland, and Master of the King's Chamber Concert.

R E C I T A T I V E

THOU fairest daughter of the various year,
O June! how bright thy flow'ry scenes appear!
The greatest prince, the foremost son of fame,
To thee bequeaths the glories of his name.

A I R.

Perfect virtue's manly grace,
Let th' harmonious choir display;
The brightest of the Royal race,
Animates the breathing lay.

* This Ode, by *Mr. Hale*, was omitted where it should have been placed, and is therefore inserted here.

[P O E T R Y]

Supreme of all celestial powers,
 Bless our monarch's social hours,
 Ev'ry earthly bliss prepare,
 Faith and truth deserve your care.

R E C I T A T I V E.

With modest confidence come forth,
 Neglected truth and pining worth,
 By GEORGE belov'd and known:
 But fear the light'ning of his eye,
 Ye splendid frauds and ev'ry lie,
 That skulk behind the throne.

A I R.

O happy Britain, joyful hour,
 Where reigns humanity with power,
 Integrity with art,
 Unwearied bounty still bestows,
 Yet still the public current flows,
 Entire in ev'ry part.

R E C I T A T I V E.

Hibernia looks with fond surprize,
 To see sweet Concord smiling rise,
 To see the Royal favours shed,
 Around her Viceroy's honour'd head.

R E C I T A T I V E, Accompanied.

Hail, blest Ierne, hospitable shore!
 Faction shall ne'er divide her subjects more:
 Peace o'er the isle extends her balmy wings,
 And thus her grateful happy peasant sings:

D U E T.

Behold each vale with plenty crown'd,
 And hung with fruits of golden dye,
 From the low shrub that creeps the ground,
 To the tall oak that braves the sky,
 The prosp'rous harvest claims our care,
 The blest rewards of toil we share.

C H O R U S.

To GEORGE our King renew the strain,
 These are the blessings of his reign.

N. B. In respect to this department of our work, we confess, we wished to have omitted many of the pieces, which could not be done consistently with our plan, some of them being of such a nature as to demand insertion, and are therefore to be considered as unavoidable. Whatever may be thought of the poetry in general, we have this satisfaction, that it is the best we could collect from the various publications within the year.

M E M O I R S

MEMOIRS, CHARACTERS,

AND

ANECDOTES.

*An Account of the Misfortunes of the
STUART FAMILY.*

THE almost uninterrupted series of misfortunes that hath attended the *Stuart Family*, and the tragical and untimely deaths of many princes of that house, will, we believe, evince them to have been the most unhappy princes that ever governed any nation. The first prince we shall mention, was Alexander Earl of Ross, third son of Robert II. by his first wife, who died in prison, where his father had confined him for his rebellious practices. Robert, Duke of Rothsay, eldest son of Robert III. was starved to death in the castle of Falkland, by the command of his uncle Robert Duke of Albany, anno 1401. This sad event, and the captivity of his other son James, broke the heart of King Robert, 1405. John Earl of Buchan, son of Robert Duke of Albany, was slain at the battle of Verneuil in France 1424. Mar-
doc, Duke of Albany, eldest son of Duke Robert, was beheaded at Stirling 1425, by the order of James I. and also his two sons Walter and Alexander. James I. was detained prisoner in England

from 1405 till 1425, and assassinated at Perth 1437, by his uncle Walter, Earl of Athol, who suffered death at Edinburgh the same year; his torments being continued three days, and his grandson, Robert, being also put to death at the same time. James II. was slain by the bursting of a cannon at Roxburgh 1460. Alexander Duke of Albany, second son of James II. was forced to fly his country through the jealousy of his brother James III. against whom he afterwards rebelled, and at last died in exile. John Earl of Mar, third son of James II. was put to death by his brother James III. 1476, under the pretence of conspiring the death of James. James III. was slain in battle by his subjects, who had rebelled against him, 1487. James IV. was killed at Flodden 1515. James V. died of grief for the defeat of his army at Solway Moss, and the defection of his nobles, 1542. Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley, father of James VI. was murdered 1567. The Earl of Lenox, father to Lord Darnley, was also murdered 1571. Mary, Queen of Scots, was forced to resign her crown,

crown, detained prisoner in England eighteen years, and beheaded there 1587. Henry, Prince of Wales, eldest son of James VI. died in the flower of his age, 1612. Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of James VI. wife to the Elector Palatine, was forced to fly from Prague after the great battle there 1620, and lived in exile many years; the Elector, who had assumed the crown of Bohemia, being put under the ban of the empire by Ferdinand II. 1621, and dying of grief after the battle of Lutien, 1632. Her son, the Elector, was imprisoned in France by order of Lewis XIII. and did not recover his dominions till 1648. Charles I. was beheaded 1649. Henry, Duke of Gloucester, his son died in the prime of life, just after the restoration, as did also Mary Princess of Orange. Elizabeth, another daughter of Charles I. died of grief for the murder of her father. James the VII. of Scotland, and II. of England, abdicated his crown and died in exile. Mary, queen of England, died young. All the children of Queen Anne died in their infancy, except the Duke of Gloucester, who also died young. Queen Anne is thought to have broke her heart by the disgust she conceived at the dissensions of those ministers to whom she had committed the direction of her affairs.

The above particulars are collected from Guthrie's history of Scotland (a work of great merit) by a correspondent to the Gentleman's Magazine, in which work this historical epitome was first published.

*Character of KING CHARLES
THE FIRST OF ENGLAND.*

THE fate of this prince having afforded a very remarkable incident in the British history, the particulars of his reign must be generally known; but as we are unwilling to omit any opportunity of giving entertainment to our readers, we could not resist the temptation of inserting a character of this prince, as drawn by Mrs. Macaulay, the celebrated historian. After giving an account of this unhappy monarch's trial and execution, she says:

"Thus, by a fate unparalleled in the annals of princes, terminated the unfortunate life and turbulent reign of Charles Stewart; a monarch whose principles, conduct, fortune, and death, by powerfully engaging the opposite affections attending the different views and different interests of men, have given rise to a bitter and irreconcilable contest.

"Regarded as the martyr to church and state, the patron of the clergy, the support of the nobility, we behold him, in the representations of a considerable party, adorned with every flower of panegyric: by the bigots of a different persuasion, his memory, notwithstanding the tribute he paid to his crimes, is held in the highest detestation. The partizans of liberty applaud his fate: the liberal and humane condemn and pity him: to a mind softened by habits of amusement, and intoxicated with ideas of self-importance, the transition from royal pomp to a prison, from easy, gay, and luxurious life, to a premature and violent death by the hands of an execu-

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executioner, are punishments so sharp and touching, that, in the suffering prince, we are apt to overlook the designing tyrant, to dwell on his hardships, and forget his crimes. Compassion is the constant attendant of liberal minds; and the commiseration of Charles's singular and unfortunate fate, but for the interests of truth and the violence of his partizans, would have inclined all such to have thrown the mantle of oblivion over the dark parts of his character, and only to have remembered that he bore his sufferings in a manner which would have done honour to the best cause. From such indulgence the ill-fated Charles is necessarily excluded: history is called upon to scrutinize with exactness his principles, conduct, and character; since, from the false colourings which by designing men have been thrown on these, and the rancor with which his opponents have been falsely aspersed, have been deduced consequences, destructive to the security and welfare of man, and highly injurious to the reputation of patriot citizens.

In the character of *Charles*, as represented by his panegyrists, we find the qualities of temperance, chastity, regularity, piety, equity, humanity, dignity, condescension, and equanimity; some have gone so far as to allow him integrity; and many writers who condemn his political principles, give him the title of a moral man. In the comparison of this representation with Charles's conduct, accurately and justly described, it is discernible that vices of the worst tendency; when shaded by a formal and plausible carriage, when

concordant to the interests of a faction and the prejudices of the vulgar, assume the appearances of, and are imposed on the credulous world as virtues of the first rank. Passion for power was Charles's predominant vice; idolatry to his regal prerogatives, his governing principles; the interests of his crown legitimated every measure, and sanctified in his eye the widest deviation from moral rule. His religion was to this a second and subordinate affection; the prelates of the church of England paid him an impious flattery: this inculcated a slavish dependence on the regal authority; the corruptions in their ecclesiastical discipline fostered superstition; superstition secured their influence over the people; and on these grounds, and to these ends, they kept an interest in the King's heart, which continued to the last period of his life. If Charles had an higher estimation of the faith in which he had been educated than of popery, it was because the principles of popery acknowledged a superior allegiance to their spiritual than their temporal prince; but regarding that superstition to be more favourable to the interests of monarchy, he preferred it to the religion of any differing sect, and publickly avowed his wish, that there never had been a schism in the church.

Neither gratitude, clemency, humanity, equity, nor generosity, have place in the fair part of Charles's character. Of the virtues of temperance, fortitude, and personal bravery, he was undeniably possessed. His manners partook of the dissipation, and his conversation of the indecency of a

court. His chastity has been called in question by an author of the highest repute; and were it allowed, it was tainted by an excess of uxoriousness, which gave it the properties and the consequences of vice. The want of integrity is manifest in every part of his conduct; which, whether the corruption of his judgment or heart, lost him fair opportunities of reinstatement in the throne, and was the vice for which, above all others, he paid the tribute of his life. His intellectual powers were naturally good, and so improved by a continued exercise, that, though in the beginning of his reign he spoke with difficulty and hesitation, towards the close of his life he discovered in his writings purity of language and dignity of style, in his debates elocution and quickness of conception.

The high opinion he entertained of regal dignity, occasioned him to observe a stateliness and imperiousness of manner, which to the rational and intelligent, was unamiable and offensive; by the weak and the formal, it was mistaken for dignity. In the exercise of horsemanship he excelled; had a good taste, and even skill in several of the polite arts; but though a proficient in some branches of literature, was no encourager of useful learning, and only patronized adepts in the jargon of

the divine right and utility of kings and bishops. His understanding in this point was so depraved by the prejudices of his education, the flattery of priests, and the affections of his heart, that he would never endure conversation which tended to inculcate the principles of equal rights in men; and notwithstanding that the particularity of his situation enforced his attention to doctrines of this kind, he went out of the world with the same fond prejudices with which he had been fostered in his nursery, and cajoled in the zenith of his power.

Charles was of a middle stature; his body strong, healthy and justly proportioned; his face was regular, handsome, and well complexioned; and his aspect melancholy, yet not unpleasing. His surviving issue were, three sons and three daughters. He was executed in the forty-ninth year of his age, and buried by the appointment of the parliament, at Windsor, decently, yet without pomp. The Duke of Richmond, the Marquis of Hertford, the Earls of Southampton and Lindsey, at their express desire, were permitted to pay the last duties to their master, but were denied (by Colonel Whithcot, the Governor of Windsor-castle) the use of the burial-service according to the book of Common Prayer*.

* In a sermon preached before the House of Lords the 30th of January last, by the Lord Bishop of St. David's, there are the following remarkable observations. "Corrupt and interested instructors impressed his youthful (Charles's) mind with exalted notions of kingly power. Court sycophants were not wanting to confirm him in sentiments that were flattering to his age and station. The reigns of the last race of princes furnished precedents to authorize exertion of power unknown to the constitution: and the opinion of those who presided in the seats of judgment, gave a sanction to ideas that had been carefully inculcated, and willingly embraced."

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*An Account of WILLIAM TELL,
the Restorer of the Liberties of
SWITZERLAND.*

GRISLER, who governed in Switzerland, for the Emperor Albert, set up a cap upon a pike in one of the public squares of Altorp, and commanded, by proclamation, that all who passed it should, as a token of obedience to his government, pull off their hats: one William Tell, who with others had formed a conspiracy against him, having passed it several times without making his obedience, was carried before the governor, who condemned him to shoot an apple from the head of one of his children at a considerable distance with an arrow. Tell, at first refused, and declared that he would rather suffer death than run the risk of killing his child with his own hand; but Griser threatening death both to him and the child, Tell complied, and had the good fortune to succeed; Griser, however, who perceived that Tell had concealed another arrow under his garment, asked what that was for? Tell at first evaded the question, but being promised his life if he would confess the truth, he fixed his eyes stedfastly upon the governor, and drawing out the arrow, "This, said he, if I had killed my child with the first, should have killed thee." Griser was struck with a sense of his danger, and turned pale; but not thinking it expedient to break his promise, nor daring to set Tell at liberty, he ordered him to

be bound hand and foot, and, with his bow and arrow, as memorials of his offence, put on board a bark, in which he was himself going a voyage on the lake Urie, intending to leave him prisoner in the castle of Cusnacht. But it happened that when the vessel had reached the middle of the lake, a violent storm arose, and the people on board told Griser, that they had no other chance to preserve their lives than to unbind the prisoner, who was not only a most skilful sailor, but remarkable for his strength and activity: Griser yielded to their importunity, and Tell was unbound, who immediately ran to the helm, and turned the head of the vessel towards Switzerland. The first land that he made was a rock, which is still called Tell's rock, and as soon as he came within a few yards of it, he seized his bow and arrow, and leaping suddenly on shore, pushed the boat off again with all his force; this gave him time to get out of sight among the cliffs before those whom he had left on board could recover the shore; and hiding himself in a narrow defile, which he knew Griser must pass, he killed him with his arrow as he went by; then hastening by secret ways to his confederates, he told their chief what he had done; upon this they appeared publicly in arms, and renounced Albert's authority: Albert was slain in his march to reduce the revolted, and Henry the VIIIth his successor restored to them their liberty and independence.

CASES AND CHARACTERS,

From Lewis's Patriot King displayed, in the Life of Henry VIII King of England.*

BUT the throne, though filled by a woman, is declared the sole fountain of jurisdiction, in whatever concerns religion."

And why not? Is not an English woman, of sense and spirit, as likely to rule with discretion, as an old woman at Rome, past her senses, and twice a child? A matter of mighty triumph this to senseless bigots, who make not truth their search. The case is this: Whether disputes about tythes, offerings, marriages, wills, &c. may not as well be determined in England, by English judges, and established laws, in courts held by the king's authority, as at Rome, by Italians, in courts held by authority of the Pope? Is an Englishman less just, knowing, or equitable, than an Italian? Is not justice as likely to be had upon the spot, as at nine hundred miles distance? To carry witnesses, attend courts, and see counsel at Rome, is this a privilege worth dying for? A legate, even in popish times, was thought still more oppressive. Cardinal Wolsey, the last Pope's legate but Pole this nation was plagued with, took five per cent. for probate of wills; had he taken fifty, no possible redress was there, but by an appeal to

Rome, from whence the remaining fifty would not have brought them back again.

Should we not justly laugh at Italians, were they, for conscience sake, to put themselves under the jurisdiction of Canterbury? Have they less reason to laugh at the English, who cannot die in peace, if not subject to their assuming usurper?—Against superior force there is no remedy, but to be voluntary slaves to a foreign power, indicates a soul unnaturally debased, by an artful, but most flagitious education. But God had given Henry a wise, intrepid, and understanding heart; he saw the cheat, hurled the pope from his usurped supremacy, and resumed it to himself, whole right it was, and where the duty of his station, his people's welfare, and his own honour, obliged him to fix it.

The supremacy thus settled by parliament, all the members swore to observe it; the subjects were required to take the same oath: Fisher and More refused it, and were therefore sent to the Tower, and in the following session were condemned by parliament to perpetual imprisonment. Faction running high, the King was advised to put the laws in execution. To repress the spirit of rebellion by such an example, it was judged expedient to bring them both to the block; and as they were really men of some figure, and the block and halter seldom fail to raise compassion, they are looked upon as a sort of Catholic saints,

* This being a performance of singular merit, some extracts from it must be acceptable to our readers.

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By the laws of his country was Fisher condemned. He lived some time afterwards by the King's grace and favour. In these circumstances did the Pope create him a Cardinal: Thus impudently asserting that supremacy to himself, which the laws had justly transferred to the King. So that to let Fisher live, thus circumstanced, would have been an evidence of weakness, or fear, or conscious guilt, in the English government; would have been, in effect, to repeal its own law; to deprive the King of his title and authority, and the kingdom of its independence; in a word, to own the Pope supreme. In such a case, a prince less resolute than Henry would have suffered the law to take its course. It did so. And Cardinal Fisher lost his head. He died for the Pope, and at the pope's door lies the blood of that martyr; a martyr for the very quintessence of slavery, stupidity, and folly.

Fisher was Henry's preceptor. He had learning, was devout, a persecutor, superstitious also, or knave enough to favour, if not to be an accomplice with, the holy maid of Kent, a pretended prophetess, in her impious and treasonable machinations; and was too obstinate to acknowledge his error, even after the maid herself, and other accomplices, had confessed their guilt, and were hanged for it. The views of this holy maid's visions and prophecies were to have Henry assassinated. Now if this preceptor would gladly have murdered his Royal pupil, by other hands; and this Royal

pupil suffered his ill-designing preceptor to die, as the law required; say, thou candid world, on which side lies ingratitude and guilt? Fisher's not confessing his fault, after the villainy was detected, though he knew the King justly expected such a confession, exhibits no small appearance of malice propense, and that he continued silent and sullen, in hopes his reputation might keep up the credit of that lewd nun, till some inflamed enthusiast could perpetrate the horrid deed. I judge of a tree by its fruit; of men by their deeds. God only knows the heart. I therefore propose this not as a certainty, but as a probable suspicion. Which suspicion lies equally heavy upon Sir Thomas More, who, after the clearest conviction, would not blast the credit of their prophetic prostitute any farther, than to believe her under the influence of an evil spirit. Now, an evil spirit was as likely to know as a good one, if there was really a project in hand to take off the King. But let the impartial judge, whether any such project had the countenance and benediction of these two holy, persecuting, popish martyrs.

Going to execution, Fisher opened the New Testament, and prayed such a place might turn up, as might comfort him in his last moments. The words that occurred were, "This is life eternal, to know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." He shut the book, and continued meditating upon these words to the last. And do they not exhibit a strong proof? As much as to say, "What is the pope to thee, or thou to the pope? Why dost thou

thou murder thyself for what thou hast no concern in? Wouldst thou obtain eternal life, know the only true God, and that Jesus is his messenger.

For the same silly cause died Sir Thomas More. "A man (saith that faithful and laborious martyr Tindal, who lived at that time) nothing inferior to Wolsey, for lying, feigning, and bearing two faces in one hood." That happy expression, *Two faces in one hood*, exhibits a more lively picture of the man, than any of those left us by his friend Hans Holbein.

More was chancellor, his father a judge. His custom was, in a morning, in Westminster-hall, to ask a blessing from his father on the King's Bench, and then to enter the court of Chancery. Was this humility or vanity? Did not the father exult in having his son chancellor? Was not the chancellor pleased in having a judge for his father? Was it not an illaudable ostentation of filial piety? A blowing the trumpet before alms? A fasting with a dirty face, to be seen of men?

Facetious he was, and a joker to such a degree of affectation, as not to refrain even upon the scaffold; yet so gloomy a bigor, as, in defence of monks and monasteries, to write a supplication in behalf of the souls in purgatory. His friend Erasmus, who calls him another Democritus, says, "he had a perpetual grin upon his face, and affectedly walked with one shoulder higher than the other." And, "a man's attire, excessive laughter, and gait, shew what he is," saith the wise son of Sirach.—When lord chancellor, he was caught in the choir in a sur-

plice, amongst the singing men, by Norfolk. "God's body, quoth the duke, what! A parish clerk! You dishonour the King and his officer."—And what had an old fellow past fifty, enjoying a spirited second wife, to do with a hair shirt, and a whip with knotted cords to flog himself withall? Did he understand the use of that discipline? had he read the lives of the saints? was all fair? That flogging affair so tickled the fancy of that proud and surly Jesuit, Petavius, that he was sometimes obliged to send for a surgeon. Whether More went to that extremity, son Roper doth not say.

More, in his Utopia, an imaginary kingdom of his own creating, allows liberty of conscience: but in England, he was a fierce and bloody persecutor. Which shews, he knew what was right, and approved it, but acted the contrary. "If man cannot pull that malicious folly [herely] out of his poisoned obstinate heart, I would rather be content, that he were gone in time, than over long to tarry to the destruction of others." That is the case, murder the sincere, the pious creature, and send him to the devil, out of pure charity, and to do God service.

So honourable, in his estimation, was the office of a persecutor, that he would have it inscribed upon his tomb, that he was a plague to thieves, murderers, and hereticks, "*furibus, homicidis, hæreticis molestus*."—Surely, in the net that thou spreadest, in the same wait thou taken. And hadst thou known one of the first principles of nature and of grace, instead of cutting silly jokes upon the scaffold,

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sold, thou wouldst, with that better instructed Canaanite, have cried out, with deep contrition of soul, "As I have done, so God hath requited me."—Though a man of parts and learning, he had an opinion of the Kentish prophets as was just before observed; and when the cheat was detected, owned, and punished, he believed her under the influence of an evil spirit. He either had not sense to see, or honesty to confess, that it was a politic and party piece of rognery.—Seeing Henry's book against Luther in manuscript, he advised him to put out what he had said of the pope's power, lest, upon a future quarrel, it should be turned against him; yet himself died for the pope's power. So that there seem to be two faces in one hood throughout.

But the punishing of poor heretics by the scourge and fire, did not satisfy More's zeal, or rather his thirst after the applause of men; but he must also turn scribbler against them. Behold a specimen.

"Master Martin Luther, himself beying specially borne agayne, and new created of the Spirit, whom God, in many places of holy scripture, hath commanded to keep his vowe made of chastity.—So far contrary thereunto, toke out of religion a spouse of Christ, wedded her himself, in reproach of wedlock called her his wife, and made her his harlot; and in double despite of marriage and religion, both lived with her openly, and lyeth with her nightly, in shameful incest, and abominable bitchery."—Such the delicacy of a courtier.—And in his Latin answer to Luther, he has thrown

out the greatest heap of nasty language, that perhaps ever was put together. The book throughout is nothing but downright ribaldry, without a grain of reason to support it. Yet so highly pleased were the clergy, to have their mumpsimus defended in any manner, that in their convocation they made a collection for him of four or five thousand pounds, which at this day would be worth forty thousand. But More was too just, or too proud, to accept of a farthing.

In a visit to More, did Erasmus, in seven days, write his celebrated *Moriæ Encomium*, or, Praise of Folly. Which he also inscribed to More. In which performance, Folly justifies herself with much wit and learning, by shewing, in how great repute she is with all ranks and orders of men. But triumphs indeed, and indicates uncommon pleasure, at her conformity with the Catholic church, and in the number and variety of fooleries to be met with in popery. Now Erasmus was too good natured, and too well bred a man, to have made so free with those holy fooleries, in a book dedicated to More, and wrote under his roof, had he not known that More had the same contempt for them that he himself had. Which yields farther grounds for suspicion, that he really bore two faces in one hood; and that he wrote, and persecuted, and died, to gain the praise of men, rather than from any motive of religion. And if such was really the case, let others determine which was most predominant in him, the knave or the fool."

Genuine Anecdotes, never before published, of the late Prince of Wales, Lord Oxford, Dean Parnelle, Mr. Pope, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Congreve, Mr. Rowe, Sir Richard Steele, Sir John Vanbrugh, Dr. Young, and Mr. Hooke. Selected from the life of Mr. Pope, lately compiled by Owen Ruffhead, Esq. from original MSS. communicated to him by Dr. Warburton Bishop of Gloucester.*

THE late Queen Caroline declared her intention of honouring Mr. Pope with a visit at Twickenham. His mother was then alive; and lest the visit should give her pain, on account of the danger his religious principles might incur by an intimacy with the court, his piety made him, with great duty and humility, beg that he might decline this honour. Some years after, his mother being then dead, the Prince of Wales condescended to do him the honour of a visit: When Mr. Pope met him at the water-side, he expressed his sense of the honour done him in very proper terms, joined with the most dutiful expressions of attachment. On which the Prince said, "It is very well; but how shall we reconcile your love to a prince, with your professed indisposition to kings; since princes will be kings in time?" "Sir, replied Mr. Pope, I consider royalty under that noble and authorized type of the Lion; while he is young, and before his nails are grown, he may be ap-

proached, and carested with safety and pleasure."

Lord Oxford, as a minister, was negligent, if we may believe what Lord Bolingbroke used to say to his friends. He added likewise, that Oxford was, in conversation, puzzled and embarrassed; and upon the whole, unequal to his station. It was his wont, every day almost, to send idle verses from court to the *Scriblerus* club, which consisted of Swift, Arbuthnot, Parnelle, Pope, and sometimes Gay. He was likewise used to frequent the club every night almost, and would talk idly, even on the crisis of the most important concerns.

Envy itself, however, must allow that this nobleman displayed a most manly fortitude during the course of his adversity.

When Parnelle had been introduced by Swift to Lord Treasurer Oxford, and had been established in his favour by the assistance of Pope, he soon began to entertain ambitious views. The walk he chose to shine in was *popular preaching*: he had talents for it, and began to be distinguished in the mob-places of Southwark and London, when the Queen's sudden death destroyed all his prospects, and at a juncture when famed preaching was the readiest road to preferment. This fatal stroke broke his spirits; he took to drinking, became a sot, and soon finished his course.

His friend, Fenton, had the like ill-hap.—Mr. Pope had a great intimacy with Craggs the

* This selection from the above-mentioned work, was first printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* in the month of February 1769.

younger,

younger, when the latter was minister of state. Craggs had received a bad and neglected education. He had great parts: and partly out of shame for want of literature, and partly out of a sense of its use, he, not long before his immature death, desired Mr. Pope to recommend to him a modest, ingenious, and learned young man, whom he might take into his house, to aid and instruct him in classical learning. Mr. Pope recommended Fenton; who was so taken in, and answered all the minister expected from him: so that Fenton had gained much of his favour, and of course thought his fortune made, when the small-pox seized the minister, and put an end to all Fenton's hopes.

Mr. Pope esteemed Congreve for the manners of a gentleman and a man of honour, and the sagest of the poetic tribe. He thought nothing wanting in his comedies, but the simplicity and truth of nature.

Rowe, in Mr. Pope's opinion, maintained a decent character, but had no heart. Mr. Addison was justly offended with him for some behaviour which arose from that want, and estranged himself from him; which Rowe felt very severely. Mr. Pope, their common friend, knowing this, took an opportunity, at some juncture of Mr. Addison's advancement, to tell him how poor Rowe was grieved at his displeasure, and what satisfaction he expressed at Mr. Addison's good fortune; which he expressed so naturally, that he (Mr. Pope) could not but think him sincere. Mr. Addison replied, I do not suspect that he feigned;

but the levity of his heart is such, that he is struck with any new adventure, and it would affect him just in the same manner, if he heard I was going to be hang'd.—Mr. Pope said, he could not deny but Mr. Addison understood Rowe well.

Mr. Pope used to say of Steele, that though he led a very careless and vicious life, yet he, nevertheless, had a real love and reverence for virtue.

Swift had taken a dislike (without knowing him) to Vanbrugh, and satirized him severely in two or three poems, which displeased Mr. Pope; and he remonstrated with his friend on this occasion. Swift said, he thought Vanbrugh a coxcomb and a puppy: the other replied, you have not the least acquaintance with, or personal knowledge of him:—Vanbrugh is the reverse of all this, and the most easy careless writer and companion in the world. This, as he assured an intimate friend, was true. He added, that Vanbrugh wrote and built just as his fancy led him, or as those he built for and wrote for directed him. If what he did pleased them, he gained his end; if it displeased them, they might thank themselves. He pretended to no high scientific knowledge in the art of building; and he wrote without much attention to critical art. Speaking with Mr. Pope of the fables in the comedy of *Ætop*, the latter said to him, Prior is called the English Fontaine, for his *tales*; nothing is more unlike. But your *fables* have the very spirit of this celebrated French poet.—It may be so, replied Vanbrugh; but, I protest to you, I never read Fontaine's fables.

Mr.

Mr. Pope thought Dr. Young had much of a sublime genius, though without common sense; so that his genius, having no guide, was perpetually liable to degenerate into bombast. This made him pass a foolish youth, the sport of peers and poets. But his having a very good heart, enabled him to support the clerical character when he assumed it, first with decency, and afterwards with honour.

The want of reasonable ideas in this ingenious writer, so pregnant with imagination, occasioned the same absence and distraction in company, which has frequently been observed to beset philosophic men, through the abundance of theirs. But his absence being on that account attended with much absurdity, it was not only excused, but enjoyed. He gave throughout his life, many wonderful examples of this turn, or rather debility of mind; of which one will suffice. When he had determined to go into orders, he addressed himself, like an honest man, for the best directions in the study of theology. But to whom did he apply? It may, perhaps, be thought, to Sherlock or Atterbury; to Burnet or Hare! No! to Mr. Pope, who, in a youthful frolic, recommended Thomas Aquinas to him. With this treasure he retired, in order to be free from interruption, to an obscure place in the suburbs. His director hearing no more of him in six months, and apprehending he might have carried the jest too far, sought after him, and found him out just in time to prevent an irretrievable derangement.

Mr. Hooke seems to have posses-

sed no small share of Mr. Pope's esteem and friendship. His solicitude to do him service is strongly exemplified in the following anecdote.

"The first Duchess of Marlborough was desirous of having an account of her *public conduct* given to the world. This Mr. Hooke, a Roman Catholic, in the mystic way, and compiler of the Roman History, was, by Mr. Pope and others, recommended to her Grace, as a proper person to draw up this account, under her inspection; and by the assistance of the papers she communicated to him, he performed this work so much to her Grace's satisfaction, that she talked of rewarding him largely, but would do nothing till Mr. Pope came to her, whose company she then sought all opportunities to procure, and was uneasy to be without it. He was at that time with some friends, whom he was unwilling to part with, a hundred miles distant. But at Mr. Hooke's earnest solicitation, when Mr. Pope found his presence so essentially concerned his friend's interest and future support, he broke through all his engagements, and in the depth of winter, and ill ways, flew to his assistance. On his coming, the Duchess secured to Mr. Hooke 5000 l. and by that means attached him to her service. But soon after she took occasion, as was usual with her, to quarrel with him."

*"Her ev'ry turn by violence pursu'd,
Not more a storm her hate than
gratitude."*

Thus Mr. Hooke represented the matter. The reason she gave of her sudden dislike to him, was his

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his attempt to pervert her to popery. This is not without probability; for he finding her Grace (as appears from the *Account of her Conduct*) without any religion, might think it an act of no common charity to give her his own;

ANECDOTS of POPE and VOLTAIRE. *From Ruffhead's Life of Pope.*

IN the year 1726, an accident happened to Mr. Pope which was near proving fatal to him, "as he was returning home from a visit in a friend's chariot; which on passing a bridge happened to be overturned, and thrown with the horses into the river. The glasses were up, and he not able to break them: so that he was in immediate danger of drowning, when the postilion, who had just recovered himself, came to his relief, and after breaking the glass, which was uppermost, took him out and carried him to the bank: but a fragment of the broken glass cut one of his hands so desperately, that he lost the use of two of his fingers."

To this accident he refers in one of his letters to Dean Swift, dated 16th Nov. 1726, where he says:

"My two least fingers on one hand, hang as impediments to the others, like useless dependents who only take up room, and never are active or assistant to our wants; I shall never be much the better for them."

Voltaire was at that time in England, and on this occasion sent Pope a consolatory letter; it was written in these very words.

"SIR,

"I hear this moment of your sad adventure. That water you fell in was not Hippocrene's water, otherwise it would have respected you. Indeed I am concerned beyond expression for the danger you have been in, and more for your wounds. Is it possible that those fingers which have written the *Rape of the Lock*, and the criticisms which have dressed Homer so becoming in an English coat, should have been so barbarously treated! Let the hand of Dennis, or of your poetasters be cut off. Yours is sacred. I hope, Sir, you are now perfectly recovered; really your accident concerns me as much as all the disasters of a master ought to affect his scholar. I am sincerely, Sir, with the admiration which you deserve,

Your most humble servant,

VOLTAIRE."

In my lord Bolingbroke's House,

Friday at noon

Our Biographer takes an opportunity here of introducing the following anecdotes, respecting the excentric genius; and redounding little to his honour.

"It is much to be lamented that this lively writer, who is so eminent for his literary abilities, should be shamefully deficient in the moral and social virtues. How lightly he regarded the rules of decency, and the dictates of faith and honour, may be collected from the following anecdotes.

"Mr. Pope told one of his most intimate friends, that the poet Voltaire had got some recommendation to him when he came to England; and that the first time

he saw him was at Twickenham, where he kept him to dinner. Mrs. Pope (a most excellent woman) was then alive; and observing that this stranger, who appeared to be entirely emaciated, had no stomach, she expressed her concern for his want of appetite; on which Voltaire gave so indelicate and brutal an account of the occasion of his disorder, contracted in Italy, that the poor lady was obliged immediately to rise from table. When Mr. Pope related this, his friend asked him how he could forbear ordering his servant John to thrust Voltaire head and shoulders out of his house; he replied, there was more of ignorance in this conduct, than a purposed affront;---That Voltaire came into England as other foreigners do, on a prepossession, that not only all religion, but all common decency of morals was lost amongst us.

"Mr. Pope said further, that Voltaire was a spy for the court, while he staid in England; of which he gave his friend the following instance. When the first Occasional Letter to Sir R. Walpole came out, (by which circumstance the reader may collect the time of Voltaire's voyage hither) he made Mr. Pope a visit at Twickenham; and walking with him in his garden, he said, Pope, this Occasional Letter alarms the court extremely. It is finely written. As you converse much with the best pens conversant in public business, you must know the author. You may safely tell this secret to a stranger, who has no concerns with your national quarrels. Mr. Pope said, he perfectly understood him, as he knew his character: and, to make a trial, which hard-

ly needed any, he replied, "Mr. Voltaire, you are a man of honour; I may safely, I know, trust an important secret to your breast. I myself wrote it." Voltaire, after launching out into high encomiums on the performance, was, he perceived, impatient to get away; and next day he heard, that all the court reported that he was the author. This infamy of the man gave Mr. Pope and his friends much occasion of mirth, and much light in the manner how he ought to be treated. How he was treated ever after by Mr. Pope himself, appears from what passed on Voltaire's coming to take leave of Mr. Pope, on his return to France. After the common compliments had passed, Mr. Pope told his friend, that Voltaire took his leave of him in these words, "And now I am come to bid farewell to a man who never treated me seriously from the first hour of my acquaintance with him to this moment."---Mr. Pope said, the observation was just, and the reason of his conduct has been given above.

"This circumstance Lord Bolingbroke hints at in a letter to Swift, 18th May, 1727, in these words---The author of Three Occasional Letters is a person entirely unknown. I would have you insinuate there (that is at court) that the only reason Walpole can have had to ascribe them to a particular person, is the authority of one of his spies, who wriggles himself into the company of those who neither love, esteem, or fear the minister, that he may report, not what he hears, (since no man speaks with any freedom before him) but what he guesses."

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"Voltaire, however, constantly paid court to Mr. Pope, and treated him with all the deference and respect due to his merit; though, at the same time, he did not scruple to speak lightly of some of the most eminent writers of this country, particularly of Milton. It is well known, that while this very ingenious and sprightly free-thinker was in England, the darling subject of his conversation was Milton; whom he once took occasion to abuse for his Episode of Death and Sin. Whereupon a certain wit turned the laugh against him, by the following smart impromptu:

"Thou art so witty, wicked, and so thin,

"Thou serv'st at once for Milton, Death, and Sin."

We are not told who this certain wit was; but if we recollect right, it was the celebrated Dr. Young; a writer, at that time, as well as since, of very different disposition and principles from Voltaire.

ANECDOTE * of the Rev. Mr. RICHARD HOOKER, author of the Ecclesiastical Politie.

THE patience of Socrates, under the incessant provocations of his wife Xantippe, is frequently celebrated by the admirers of antiquity. Without de-

tracting from the praise due to that venerable name, we may venture to say, that our own country can produce a person who rivals that celebrated philosopher, no less in his genius, than in his patience. We need not blush, when we add the name of Hooker to this assertion. No man experienced more the miseries of a provoking spouse; no man had more reason than he to repent the connubial state; but no man seemed to grieve at it less.

His choice of such a partner was owing neither to avarice nor fondness; and therefore could not expose him to those censures to which most unfortunate matches are obnoxious. But as the manner in which he was trepanned into it is as curious, as the manner in which he endured the trials to which it subjected him, it needs no apology for relating it.

About the year 1581, Mr. Hooker was appointed to preach at St. Paul's Cross, and for that purpose came to London. At that time there was a house near St. Paul's Church, called the Shunamite's house, which was appropriated for the preachers at the Cross. Here they were entertained two days before, and one day after, they preached. The house was at this time kept by one Mr. Churchman, who had formerly been a linen-draper of some note in Watling-street, but was now reduced. When Hooker came hither from Oxford, he was so

* Every reader of curiosity must be pleased with this anecdote; though, at the same time, it will be lamented, that so good a man, and so great a writer as Hooker, should ever have laboured under the disagreeable circumstances here recorded.

wet and fatigued, that he was apprehensive he should not be able to preach the Sunday following. But Mrs. Churchman took so much care of him, that he was enabled to discharge his duty. Mr. Hooker was so much wrought upon by the kindness of Mrs. Churchman, that he thought he could not do less, in gratitude, than believe all that she said to him. She told him; "that he was a man of a tender constitution; that it would be best for him to marry a wife to nurse him; which would not only prolong his life, but make it more comfortable—and she could and would provide him such a one, if he pleased." Poor Hooker unfortunately took the old woman at her word; he knew nothing of fraud himself, and therefore suspected none in her. He gave her power to chuse him a wife, promising to return to London to accept of her choice, upon the first notice. She did not let him wait long; for, within a year she sent for him, to marry her daughter Joan, who had neither beauty nor money, and might justly be described by that wife which Solomon compares to a dripping house.

This marriage deprived Mr. Hooker of his fellowship; and he remained without any preferment, till December 1584, when he was presented by John Cheney, Esq; to the rectory of Drayton-Beauchamp, in Buckinghamshire.

While he was in this situation,

he was visited by Mr. Edwin Sandy's, son of the Archbishop of York, and Mr. George Cranmer, a relation to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who had been his pupils at Corpus Christi College, in Oxford. They found their old tutor, with a Horace in his Hand, tending his sheep in a common field. He told them he was *forced* to do it, because his servant was gone home to dinner, and to help his wife in some necessary business in the house. When his servant returned and released him, the two pupils attended him to his house, where their best and only entertainment was his company. But this they were soon deprived of by his wife, who called to him, "*Richard, come and rock the cradle.*" This usage of their tutor so shocked the pupils, that they took their leaves of him next morning. At their parting Mr. Cranmer said, "Good tutor, I am sorry your lot is fallen into no better ground, as to your patronage; and more sorry that your wife proves not a more comfortable companion, after you have fatigued yourself with studying." The good man immediately replied; "My dear George, if *saints* have usually a double share in the miseries of this life, I that am none, ought not to repine at what my wife Creator hath appointed for me; but labour, as indeed I do daily, to submit to his will, and possess my soul in patience."

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Sketch of the LIFE and CHARACTER of the late Duke of Newcastle.*

Thomas Holmes Pelham, late Duke of Newcastle, descended from an antient family in the County of Suffex, added lustre to his name, by the distinguished titles he obtained, the immense estates he inherited, the great employments he enjoyed, and the esteem and favour of three successive monarchs of the same race. His father was created a peer of Great Britain by Queen Anne: and George I. on his accession to the crown, conferred on him the titles of Marquis and Duke, as a reward for his indefatigable zeal in establishing his house on the throne, and the prodigious sums he lavished to secure the acclamations of the people when the king made his public entry into his capital. The rise of his power and grandeur should be dated from the year 1715. His youth, his rank, and his wealth, at that time displayed an enchanting perspective of the most alluring and desirable pleasures. The favourable opinion of a prince, who was fond of feasting and voluptuousness, and the honourable post of lord chamberlain, which he possessed, naturally inspired him with a taste for every thing that flatters and captivates the senses. The young duke, insensible of the advantages and allurements of an independent and happy life, sacrificed every

thing to ambition, a passion which is never gratified; and the idea of his power and authority, seemed to be his only enjoyment.

His sole object and constant application was to gain, by dint of money, the votes at elections for members of parliament, and to secure a majority in the lower house; the only infallible means of acquiring importance at court. Without possessing a great and enterprizing genius, fit to govern a powerful empire, or an irresistible eloquence, which subdues all opinions, and removes every obstacle in a free state, his largesses, his affability, and his popular manner, laid the foundation of that surprizing ascendant over the spirit of the people, which he preserved ever after. Whole countries blindly submitted to the power he had assumed. All opposition to his views were taxed with presumption, and represented as a design to overturn the established system of government. Thus fascinating and dazzling the eyes of the public by the immense sums distributed by his creatures, he acquired that influence in the nation he possessed under the reign of George the First.

When George II. succeeded to the crown, the duke found that prince equally disposed to confide the reigns of government to his care, and to admit him to his friendship. Mr. Walpole, afterwards created Earl of Orford, all-powerful as he was during his administration, was obliged to join

* From the Town and Country Magazine, a new monthly publication of singular merit, containing more novelty and original pieces, than any work of the kind we have hitherto met with.

the Duke of Newcastle, and to make use of his credit to establish the system of venality and corruption he wanted to introduce. He rewarded the zeal of his own creatures by places and pensions, and the populace he secured by his liberality: by this means influencing the electors in favour of the candidate he nominated; whilst those counties where many families subsisted by the dependence they had on his estate, were entirely at his devotion.

His house was open indiscriminately to people of all ranks and conditions: the nobleman and the republican, the clergyman and the layman, were admitted in this licentious season to the duke's table; where he treated, without distinction, every one with the same hospitality. In these assemblies, every guest had the liberty of indulging in intoxication, according to rule; that is to say, in drinking the healths of the King and Royal family, and in swallowing a number of toasts proposed by the master of the ceremonies. The entertainment would not have been complete, if the duke had not made this sacrifice of reason to Bacchus, as he never wanted to give his guests any other proof of his fidelity to his sovereign, and of his love for his country. He generally appeared at the assizes for the county of Sussex with a large train of noblemen and country gentlemen: and at Lewes where he displayed all his magnificence and hospitality. He reigned in this county for the best part of forty years like an absolute prince, disposing of every place without exception; and excluding every person from a seat

in parliament who had the misfortune to fall under his displeasure.

The Earl of Orford, having been forced to resign by a powerful party, notwithstanding his being the King's favourite, the duke, assisted by his brother Mr. Pelham, assumed the administration of affairs. He was secretary of state for the northern department, which he enjoyed for five and twenty years, at the time his brother was at the head of the treasury; after whose death he succeeded to that first employment of the state. Arrived at the pinnacle of power and grandeur, he directed the councils of his sovereign; he disposed, without controul, of the highest dignities in the church, and of every employment both civil and military; and led the P—— as he pleased. All his relations and dependants obtained honourable and lucrative employments.

At the beginning of the last war a sudden storm was raised against him, which he soon found means to appease. The loss of Minorca, and the bad situation of affairs at that time, were imputed to him; he thought it most prudent to give way to the impetuosity of a people who are always in extremes. He retired for a few months, certain of resuming his former power, whenever the ferment should subside. In fact, Mr. Pitt, though forced into the ministry by the voice of the people, could not maintain himself in the place he filled with so much glory, but by accepting the conditions of allowing the duke to keep all his posts and authority in the administration. It is true he left to this minister the direction

direction of all the military operations, which were crowned with such amazing success, as to astonish all Europe: but he continued to fill up all the places at court; and he reinforced his credit by a liberal distribution of honours and pensions. In fine, George II. who had been eased of the burden of royalty during the greatest part of his long reign, began to be drawing towards his latter end. The duke thought that the favour and confidence of two kings were a sufficient title to pretend to the same advantages under a young prince; though, at the same time, he would have refused him the liberty of choosing his own servants.

George III. continued him in all his places, notwithstanding his advanced age, and his insatiable desire of ruling over every department of the state; but being as prodigal of the public revenue, as he was of his own income, he would have added a million extraordinary to the expences of a nation already exhausted by a ruinous war. The King, sensible of the burden of his people, loaded with taxes which it was necessary to impose, rejected with firmness an impost so new and exorbitant. The duke, who had never been contradicted in the last reign, appeared extremely mortified. It is said, he complained in the most disrespectful terms of the little deference paid to his advice, and the little regard shewn to his services. Whether he was disgusted by this incident, or at the resolution the King had taken to free himself from a dependence so injurious to Majesty, he resigned all his places except the lord lieu-

tenancy of three counties, which he was afterwards compelled to relinquish.

The Earl of Bute, who had the misfortune to be born in Scotland, succeeded the Duke of Newcastle in the important post of first lord of the Treasury. If the King had been more influenced by politics than inclination to prefer a nobleman who had been his tutor, it would not have been a motive sufficient to keep the duke from founding the alarm, and declaring himself openly the head of a faction, which had no other object but to obstruct the measures of the ministry. Though it is going from the point to enter into the reasons for this famous opposition, composed of many considerable persons, it seems very probable that the respectful name of *Patriot* is only a mask to cover a secret pride and ambition.

We are at last arrived at the most important period of the Duke of Newcastle's life. The resignation of Lord Bute did not appease his resentment. He had no personal hatred against that nobleman; every prime minister was equally odious to him. Fifty years enjoyment of honours, pre-eminence, and an almost unlimited sway, could not satisfy his ambition. Equally eager, as in the flower of his age, after the first employments in the state, he could not submit to live a retired life. Disturbed with the most restless inquietude, and devoured with spleen, he could not conceive but that his sovereign had been unjust in taking away those employments he had been used to regard as his patrimony. In order to divert his melancholy, he retired

tired to the country, borne down with the weight of his own existence. All he could think of was his being eclipsed by a new administration; and the hope of his being one day re-established was the only support of his old age. That croud of nobility, clergy, and men of business, no longer attended his levee, soliciting in his anti-chamber, with the meanest condescension, places, pensions, and titles; the shameful slaves, instead of illustrious representatives of a free people. Nothing but the hopes of a change in the ministry could make his retirement tolerable. He at last obtained the post of lord privy-seal; and his triumphant entry into Lewes was the signal of his power.

He was five times nominated one of the lords of the regency during the visits of the two late Kings to their German dominions, and honoured with the order of the Garter. We have forgot to add to his other titles, &c. that of Chancellor of the University of Cambridge: which he put up for, and obtained at the death of the Duke of Somerset. In his youth he married the daughter of the Earl of Godolphin, son of the Lord-treasurer of the same name, in queen Anne's time.

In this manner did the Duke of Newcastle pass his life, loaded with honours, always in appearance overwhelmed with business, without ever enjoying any of those

pleasures his rank and fortune offered in unceasing variety.

He loved a luxurious table, and the most delicious wines; but he manifested very little taste or discernment in the choice of his guests.

When at liberty, however, he chose to live upon very plain food; but he never made his own taste any rule for that of another.

Though he retired to all appearance voluntarily from the public business, yet it is well known that he took a capital lead in the opposition to the ministry. His general topics in all companies were strongly to recommend unanimity amongst all parties who were discontented with the government, and his plan was to refuse the assistance and support of no man or party who were willing to concur in distressing the administration. He enforced all he said on those heads by extolling the personal character of his present Majesty in proportion as he vilified his ministers.

He behaved notwithstanding with such decency, that he sometimes went to court, where he was well received; and towards the latter part of his life, he acquired a great character from those who had before always abused him, by his disinterestedness in all pecuniary matters*, though it was well known that his circumstances had been miserably shattered-

* The author of this sketch would have rendered himself more intelligible, had he informed his readers that the duke actually refused a pension of 4000*l.* a year.

ed, through his attachment to the house of Hanover.

His Grace was born August 1, 1694, and succeeded his father as Baron Pelham of Laughton, February 23, 1712, and by the last will and testament of his uncle John Holles Duke of Newcastle, who died July 15, 1711, was adopted his heir, and authorised to bear the name and arms of Holles. His grace was married, April, 2, 1717, to Lady Henrietta Godolphin, daughter to the Earl of Godolphin. Dying without issue, the title of Duke of Newcastle-upon-Tyne became extinct, but the title of Duke of Newcastle-under-Line devolved to the Earl of Lincoln. His Grace was the last survivor of the nine dukes created by King George I.

ANECDOTES of the KNIGHTS of
the HOLY GHOST. From M.
St. Foix's History of that Order.

THIS order was founded by Henry the Third, in December 1578, by the name and in honour of the Holy Ghost; because on the day of Pentecost, 1573, Henry had been elected King of Poland, and on the same day, 1574, he succeeded to the crown of France. The number of the Knights is limited to one hundred, besides the king, who is always the sovereign and grand master, including four cardinals, four archbishops, the great almoner of France, the chancellor of the order, the provost master of the ceremonies, the great treasurer, and the secretary, who have all the title of commanders.

The author mentions, successively, all the knights first created by Henry III. and relates (among others) the following entertaining particulars of their lives.

Henry III. Founder of the Order.

Most historians have drawn a hideous picture of this monarch. M. de St. Foix thinks better of him. He represents him as a weak, silly, and unfortunate prince, and he adopts the opinion which l'Estole, a very faithful writer, gives of him: "He was a good king," says he, "if he had lived in a better age." He has been accused of scandalous immoralities; "but who were those men whom he called his favourites, la Marck, Maugiron, Joyeuse, d'Epernon, and others? most of them carried proofs of their valour on their faces; he had seen them, and had seen that they were always the first to mount the breach. La Marck, in particular, had a large scar in his forehead, from a wound which he received at the first siege of Rouen. Maugiron had lost an eye at the siege of Issoire. Joyeuse had half of his jaw-bone carried away at the siege of la Fere; and d'Epernon was dangerously wounded there. With a view of opposing them to the Guises, he raised them to places of trust, gave them governments, and his disposition, naturally generous, was on their account betrayed into profusions, which the hatred that almost always attends favourites did not fail to exaggerate."

KNIGHTS.

Ludovic de Gonzagus, Duke of
Nevers and Rhetelois. In a skirmish
with a party of Huguenots, Capt.
Beaumont,

Beaumont, whom he had attacked and dismounted, fired a pistol at him, which broke his knee-pan, and of which he was lame all his life. He prevented his men from killing this Beaumont: "You shall add," said he, "that I gave you your life, when you relate that you wounded, and, perhaps killed me."

James, Count de Crussel, Duke de Uzès. In the life-time of his brother he was styled, *Baron d'Assier*. He embraced the Reformed Religion, and was one of the principal leaders of the Protestants. Distinguished as he was by his military talents, he was as remarkable for his humanity, probity, and honour, in those shocking times when the most barbarous actions, the blackest perfidies, and the basest treasons, seem to have been thought no disgrace. The cruelties of the Duke de Montpensier, and his infamous Guidon, are well known. The Baron d'Assier wrote to the Duke as follows: "I have retaken Bergerac; none were killed there in cold blood, or who had not arms in their hands; the women, old and young, had fled to a church; I desired them to return to their houses, and assured them they should be safe; I have only chosen out twenty of the handsomest of them, whom I have sent you, that you may judge whether they were not likely to tempt us to reprisals; they will inform you, that they have suffered not the least dishonour. You are a devotee; you have a ghostly father, your table is always filled with monks, you hear two or three masses every day, and you go frequently to confession: I confess myself only to God, I hear no

masses, I have none but soldiers at my table. Honour is the sole director of my conscience; that will never advise me to order rapes, to put to death a defenceless enemy, and to break a promise once given."

Francis Gouffier, Lord of Crevecœur and Bonniwet, &c. Catharine of Medicis having sent for him, in order to acquaint him that his son was just nominated to a regiment of foot, Madam, said he, throwing himself at her feet, "A month ago, as my son was walking alone in the evening through an unfrequented street in Paris, he was assaulted by five ruffians; Captain la Vergne, though a stranger to him, drew his sword, and attacked these assassins with such bravery, that two of them were killed, the three others fled! you will allow, Madam, that my son ought not to outstrip his benefactor; you will complete the kindness you intended us by disposing of it in favour of La Vergne." "A heart so grateful as yours," replied Catharine of Medicis, can admit of no refusal; I consent to what you desire, and will not forget your son."

Charles de Hallwin, Lord of Piennes. He might boast of having lost more blood in the service of his king, than any gentleman in the kingdom. He had been at fifteen sieges and eleven battles, and had been wounded at them all. His fate in regard to his children was no less remarkable: he married Anne Chabot, by whom he had five sons, and one daughter; two of them were assassinated, the three others, and the husband of that daughter, were killed.

Francis

Francis le Roi, Lord of Ghavigny. In the midst of a court, where a depravity of heart and character seemed general, he still preserved the candor and frankness of a good and worthy Frenchman. Charles IX. who had a high esteem for him, told him one day, that his mother (Catharine of Medicis) boasted, that there was not a gentleman in the kingdom of 10,000 livres a year about whom she had not a spy: "Sire," replied he, "I know not whether tyrants make spies, or spies make tyrants, but I think they cannot be useful but in war."

Scipio de Fiergue, Count of Lavagne, &c. He was related to Catharine of Medicis; she should have made him a Marshal of France, but he refused it: "Madam," said he, "I have served long both by land and sea, and I have distinguished myself enough to be always honoured as a good and brave gentleman; but not enough to be a Marshal of France: I am better pleased with the reputation I enjoy, than with the highest rank, which perhaps might make me lose it."

William Pot, Knight of Rhodes and of Chemaut, Provost Master of the Ceremonies, Commander of the King's Orders. Henry III. passing near the castle of Chemaut, stopped and dined there: he was surprised to see in the court-yard, and in the gardens, several men who wanted either a leg or an arm: "Sire," said M. de Rhodes, "a merchant who thought himself under great obligations to my father, died three years ago; having none but distant relations, he left me, by his will, 600,000 livres; I have appropriated this fund, and

the interest of this sum, to the nourishment and support of a number of soldiers, born on my estate, and whom their wounds have disabled from serving your Majesty." This foundation of M. de Rhodes gave Henry III. the idea of an order of Christian Charity, for poor officers and soldiers maimed in war. The troubles which harassed the kingdom prevented this establishment from being supported: it sunk again after the death of Henry IV. who had resumed the design in 1605; the raising the palace of Mars with magnificence and on a solid foundation was reserved for Lewis XIV.

Claude de l'Abespine, Lord of Verderonne, Secretary-commander of the King's Orders. He wrote to Stephen de Neuilly, First President of the Court of Aids, as follows: "You solicit, Sir, the place of provost of the merchants; I solicit it also; I know that yesterday you spared no pains to render me strongly suspected by his Majesty: if I put into his hands these two letters, and this memorial, you will forfeit his favour for ever, and I shall get rid of a competitor and an enemy. I return you the whole; when you wrote me these letters, and sent me this memorial, we were friends; I ought not to abuse the confidence with which our friendship then inspired you." We read in the journal of Henry III. of the year 1582, that Stephen de Neuilly was chosen Provost of the Merchants by the King's order, who in the sequel had frequently reason to repent the marks of favour which he had shown, on various occasions, to that unworthy magistrate.

ANECDOTES of the great Lord Hallifax and Mr. ADDISON *.

MR. Addison had the honour to accompany Lord Hallifax when he set out for Greenwich to wait upon King George I. Before he went he took him into his library, and with an air that spoke the infinite satisfaction of his mind, expressed himself in these words: "Well, Sir, we have at length gained a complete victory; the Hanover succession takes place, the King is landed, and we shall soon have the pleasure to kiss his hand: you are so much my friend, that I must tell you plainly I expect to have the white staff, and I have been long considering, and am come to a resolution how to behave: I came into the world with little or no fortune; every man will try to make his private circumstances easy; I thank God I have made mine so; I have got more money than it is, perhaps, proper every body should know, and I am come to a full resolution to set up my rest, as to that point, where I am: I have been in my time in a good deal of hot-water, and as deeply engaged in parties as most men. To say the truth, I have done a good many things in the spirit of party, which when I reflect on seriously, I am heartily ashamed of: I resolve, by the help of God, to make King George not the head of a party, but the King of a glorious nation. To be sure, a great many people must be removed from their posts: the Tories themselves cannot expect it

should be otherwise; and it would be the highest ingratitude not to reward several gentlemen, who have borne the *heat of the day*, and run all hazards for the sake of the house of Hanover: yet at the same time, if his Majesty will take my advice, there shall be no cruelties; no *barbarities*, committed: every worthless fellow that has called himself a *Whig*, got drunk, and bawled at an election, shall not displace a man of ten times his own merit, only because he is a *reputed Tory*. I think I know that party; some of them did mean to elevate the Pretender; but yet there are others among them, that are as worthy men as ever lived. *It is time the nation should be united*: we shall then, indeed, be a formidable people. I hope this glorious work has been reserved by Providence for the reign of his present Majesty. I have told you already, that I do not propose to lay up a farthing out of the present profits of my post: I design to live in such a manner, as I hope shall be no dishonour to my master; and will, if possible, put an end to the scandalous practice of buying places. I am firmly resolved to recommend no man for a post in the government, but such a one as I have reason to believe a man of merit, and who will be a credit to his country and his King. As for you, Addison, as soon as I have got the staff myself, I intend to recommend you to his Majesty for one of his secretaries of state."

Mr. Addison told his lordship, that he did not aim at so high a post; and desired him to remem-

* From the Town and Country Magazine.

ber he was not a speaker in the House of Commons. Lord Hallifax briskly replied, "Come, priethee, Addison, no unseasonable modesty: I made thee secretary to the regency with this very view: thou hast now the best right of any man in England to be secretary of state: nay, it will be a sort of displacing thee, not to make thee so. If thou couldst but get over that silly sheepishness of thine, that makes thee sit in the house and hear a fellow prate for half an hour together, who has not a tenth part of thy good sense, I should be glad to see it; but since I believe that is impossible, we must contrive as well as we can. Thy pen has already been an honour to thy country, and, I dare say, will be a credit to hy King."

With these sentiments Lord Hallifax waited upon George I. at Greenwich, when he soon found that he had been a little too sanguine. It is no great secret, that during the short stay his Majesty made at the Hague, he received other impressions than those he had when he left Hanover. He was told by some people, that *if he made a lord treasurer, he would make a greater man than himself*. Measures were taken very different from those which Lord Hallifax thought would have been most for the service of his King and country. He had never that credit with his Royal Master, which his services had made him conceive, at least, that he really merited; and all his friends knew that he determined to resign his post in the treasury a little before his death.

*The Origin of Pasquin at Rome, illustrated with curious Anecdotes *.*

PASQUIN derives his name from a taylor of Rome, who was a professed wag—a second Momus; who, in conversing with his neighbour named Marforio, diverted themselves at the expence of the public. After his death the trunk of a statue of an ancient gladiator being found near Pasquin's house, the satirists of Rome christened it with his name, and made him the ambassador of their sarcasms.

Pasquin may be considered as a dog that barks and bites with impunity, in diverting the public at the expence of illustrious characters. It is neither more nor less than an ancient statue that was extremely useless, situated at the corner of a street in Rome; but this same insignificant block has become of infinite importance, by the acquaintance it has made with the great, and the secrets of their cabinets, which it is incessantly divulging; so that it is, in fact, the scandalous chronicle of all Rome. We read that Pope Adrian being offended at Pasquin's diverting the public at his expence, said one day to Cardinal de Soissons, that he had a great inclination to cast his statue into the Tiber; but the cardinal dissuaded him from executing his design, saying that Pasquin would then croak more vociferously than all the frogs in that river. Well then, said the pope, I will order

* From the Town and Country Magazine.

it to be burnt, "I intreat you not to think of such a thing, most holy father;" replied the cardinal; "for from his ashes would spring, as from a phoenix, another Pasquin, and the people would celebrate his annual martyrdom like that of a second St. Lawrence."

The cardinal was certainly right, he had the vulgar proverb on his side, and ordure will smell in proportion as it is raked into. It is judicious to laugh with the multitude; for by not being offended at the insolence of pasquinades, half the satire is lost, and all the author's trouble. It is certain that Pasquin shews no more quarter to his infallible holiness than to others, when he affords food for sarcasm; and none, indeed, escape his lash. When Urban VIII. was elected to the papal chair by the intrigues of the court of Versailles, Pasquin failed not, the day after his election, to appear with a parrot upon his head, without any explanation; but the wits of Rome understood this hieroglyphic, and the idea Pasquin would communicate by displaying this bird, which, in Italian being called *Papagallo*, intimated that the pope would be a perfect Frenchman.

A certain Spanish ambassador had frequent recourse to the purses of his friends when he gave magnificent entertainments. Having one day celebrated at Rome with great pomp the anniversary of his master's nuptials; Pasquin, who was highly disgusted at it, did not fail communicating his opinion the next day in these words. *Il signore ambasciatore a fatto tutto*

quell che deve, e deve tutto quell che a fatto; which we shall give our English reader in these words, *His excellency the ambassador has done all he owed, and owes all he has done.*

In fine, every day presents an infinite number of these pasquinades at Rome, which afford diversion to those who are not the subjects of their satire.

*Reflections on the CHARACTER of
Julius Cæsar *.*

THIS illustrious Roman appears to be in every thing superior to Alexander. From a simple citizen of the most powerful republic that ever existed, to become the sole commander, with unlimited power, of those haughty conquerors of the world! Can any idea be formed of merit superior to his, who would carry his ambition to such a height, and had the necessary abilities to succeed in such a design? Alexander found a much more easy road to empire. The son of an able and experienced king, formed under his eye, excited by his example, heir to a flourishing kingdom, at the head of a warlike and powerful army, commanded by generals thoroughly versed in the art of war; moreover, favoured by the most constant and the most rapid fortune; is it then surprising that the conquest of Asia, though one of the most daring enterprises ever attempted, should, nevertheless, succeed under his auspices?

* From the Town and Country Magazine.

It seems more probable, that the name of Cæsar was given to Julius on account of the length and beauty of his hair, or from the African word, *Cesar*, which signified in the Punic language, an elephant. In effect, history acquaints us, that in his youth he had slain one of these monstrous animals. It appears that it was in consequence of so brave an action, that we see an elephant upon some of the ancient medals of this emperor; for it is an error to imagine that this name was given him, because he was extracted from his mother's womb by the method of incision: which operation could not be performed without occasioning the death of his mother, who, nevertheless, according to his own Commentaries, accompanied him into Gaul.

No other man ever received from nature such a concurrence of rare and valuable qualities as Cæsar. He could write, read, dictate, and give audience at the same time. He expressed himself with ease in seven different languages. He was a complete master of several sciences, and wrote works upon various subjects; but unfortunately for us, the only remains of them are his Commentaries. He was present at fifty pitched battles, in which upwards of 192,000 men perished, without including the battles he fought during the civil wars. Being the sovereign pontiff, he reformed the calendar, and fixed the number of days in the year to 365. When fortune first smiled upon him, his goodness, meekness, and clemency, went hand in hand with his frankness and probity; but afterwards, being intoxicated with prosperity,

he gave himself up to pride, which made him so odious to the patricians of Rome, that sixty-two of the chiefs having conspired against his life, he was assassinated by them with poignards, giving him no less than twenty-three wounds in the open senate. This fatal catastrophe had long before been foretold him by Spurina; and on the eve of this shocking event, Calphurnia his wife had a very particular intimation of it given her in a dream. This lady having related to him what had happened to her; Cæsar, imagined it would be weakness in him to give faith to it, and answered her in the following manner:

“If I am to die to-morrow, it shall be the business of that day; but I shall not at least be compelled to give up life, as I am fully resolved upon it. I neither desire to yield, nor escape the fury of my enemies. The term of my life depends upon the gods: but the manner of quitting it is in my own power. If Calphurnia's dream be nothing more than the effect of indigestion or vapours, we will to-morrow have the pleasure of being merry at it: but if it be sent by the Gods, it is a notification that cannot make me escape their decree, and which is given me solely to prepare me to submit to their will. In a word, I have lived long enough; I am advanced in years, crowned with glory, I have equalled the most illustrious heroes of antiquity; and nothing more is left for me to do, but terminate my career. Cæsar is not, however, dead—but only prepared to die.”

History acquaints us, that neither of his assassins survived him
three

three years, and that they suffered violent deaths. The senate ordered the gate of the hall of the capitol, in which this great man was assassinated, to be walled up, and pronounced the day fatal on which this act was committed. I cannot, however, dissimulate that Cæsar had some defects which tarnished his virtues; and, if credit is to be given to the scandalous chronicle of his time, he was the husband to all wives, and the wife to all husbands.

An account of Joan of Arc, and the severity with which she was treated by the Inquisition of France. From M. Villaret's history of that kingdom.

JOAN of Arc, known by the name of the Maid of Orleans, who, by her bravery and enthusiasm, had so much contributed to revive the courage of the French, and had struck such terror into the hearts of the English, threw herself into Compeigne, when the English and Burgundians besieged it. She was taken prisoner in a sally which she made at the head of 600 men. The joy of the besiegers cannot be expressed at having in their power this girl of 18 years of age, whose name alone for more than a year had made them tremble. The victories of Cressy, Poitiers, and Agincourt, had never excited such transports. The Duke of Bedford himself ordered public rejoicings at Paris, preceded by a Te Deum by way of thanksgiving.

She was at first imprisoned in the fortress of Beaulieu, afterwards

in that of Beaurevoir, then in the castle of Crottoy, and at last she was carried to Rouen, where she was tried and condemned to perish in the flames, and was accordingly burnt. Just after she was taken, brother Martin, vicar-general of the inquisition in France, an office now happily forgotten, together with the bloody tribunal to which it owed its origin, demanded the prisoner from the military power, as being *vehemently suspected of many crimes amounting to heresy, crimes which could not be disguised and overlooked without ample and sufficient reparation.* The university exhibited on this occasion, the most base and abject prostitution, by soliciting the English to deliver Joan up to the Inquisition, and requesting them to take care that she did not escape the justice of the church. Peter Cauchon, Bishop of Beauvais, as her metropolitan, demanded the right of condemning her. He applied for that purpose to the university, to the inquisitor, to the Duke of Burgundy, to the King of England, and did not give over his application till she was delivered to him. The archbishopric of Rouen being then vacant, the chapter lent its jurisdiction to the Bishop of Beauvais, that is, he was allowed to act as judge in that diocese.

Nothing could be more severe, more deceitful, more violent, and more cruel, than the manner in which that unworthy prelate, and his unjust assessors treated Joan in the course of this process; all of it was alike inconsistent with justice, honour, decency, modesty, and good faith. This ecclesiastical tribunal condemned her, as being *relapsed, excommunicated, rejected*

from

from the bosom of the church, and for her crimes judged worthy to be given up to the secular power. Such was the form used in the decrees of the inquisition. The tribunal, when it condemned its victims, did not put them to death: The church abhors blood, but those whom it condemned were infallibly burnt by the lay officers. This was the fate of Joan of Arc. The bailiff of Rouen and his assistants, who were sent for to represent the secular arm, did not pronounce the sentence; they only said, *take her away*. Near the stake was a picture on which was this inscription: *Joan commonly called la Pucelle, a liar, dangerous, an abuser of the people, a witch, superstitious, a blasphemer of God, presumptuous, an unbeliever in Jesus Christ, a murderer, cruel, dissolute, a worshipper of the Devil, an apostate, a schismatic, and an heretic.*

Such was the tragical end of a heroine, who could not be charged with any atrocious crime, at least with any that could be deemed worthy to be expiated by fire, such as appearing in men's cloaths and bearing arms, boasting that she had had apparitions, or visions, which disclosed to her future events, and having carried her zeal for

the service of her king to a degree of fanaticism and enthusiasm, which made her capable of performing prodigies of valour. Her amazing exploits made her pass for a *forcerefs* in that age of ignorance, when every thing extraordinary was ascribed to the intervention of the devil. She was burnt not so much to expiate her own great and real crimes, as to satisfy the spite and hatred of the English, whose measures she had confounded. The judges who condemned her were French, but the subjects of England. This was an artifice of the Duke of Bedford and the English ministry, whose policy endeavoured to throw on the French nation the disgrace of such a manifest piece of injustice. They themselves sacrificed the *Pucelle*, as her destruction turned to their advantage, but they made choice of the French for the instruments of their vengeance *.

Extracts from a Character of Dr. Secker, late Archbishop of Canterbury. By Dr. Burton †.

P. 25. "THE same method that he pursued in the diocese of Oxford, he also

* We cannot help reminding our readers in this place, that the author is a Frenchman; he endeavours to render the English contemptible for the persecution of Joan of Arc, though the sole effect of his countrymen's folly, ignorance, and superstitious fears.

† The learned Dr. Burton of Eton. who, as he himself tells us, had a friendship with Dr. Secker for more than forty-four years, having lately published at the Clarendon press, an elegant Latin Epistle to a friend, which he intitles, *Commentariolus Thomæ Secker, Archiep. Cantuar. memoriæ sacer*; the above account of that amiable prelate is extracted from that work, and translated into English for the benefit of the unlearned reader.

adopted in that of Canterbury; holding visitations, according to ancient custom, traversing the country not only in person, but by his enquiries, and animadverting on, or diligently searching into every thing that related to the clergy, employing for that purpose his own observation and that of others, and when absent, so careful to be present, that he enquired into, wrote down, and entered every thing in a sort of common-place book: from these disquisitions he compiled an ample system of Parochial Knowledge; and from thence a sort of history of his province; the inheritance of which, as of an inestimable treasure, was to be transmitted to his successors.

“ But what shall I say of his attention, so eminently conspicuous to American affairs? Here indeed I see him most sedulously laborious, and omitting nothing which could in any way contribute to the propagating or promoting the Christian religion. Witness his indefatigable care in discharging the duties of the societies at which he presided*! Witness his active diligence in defending true piety from the assaults of atheists, the frauds of papists, and the ravings of fanatics! Witness also his solicitude to provide fit ministers of the word of God, and his vigilant enquiries into their lives, morals, and diligence!

“ From his usual sagacity and knowledge of antiquity, he was convinced that episcopacy derived its origin from the very beginning

of Christianity, and had the sanction of Apostolic authority. He knew, that by a kind of alliance, it was connected with monarchy. When therefore those Americans who had embraced the faith and discipline of the church of England, were desirous of having the benefits of episcopal government brought nearer to them, and introduced into their own provinces, what wonder that our archbishop should favour these their pious desires? But lest the suspicion of affecting I know not what papal tyranny, should excite tumults among the dissenters, he took care that this ecclesiastical policy should be indulged to those who wished and desired it, but should not be obtruded on any; and that the episcopal power, confined within the limits of a government merely ecclesiastical, should leave no room for envy or disgust among the malevolent or the unjust. And shall I say it, is it credible, that such torrents of envy and reproach could have been poured out against a design so mild, so moderate, so useful? Nevertheless, some among the dissenters, obstinate and cholerick, immediately raged; in a republic, seditious citizens, and when rulers in the church intolerable tyrants. Unjust and malicious men! who would deny to those who differ from you, those rights and that liberty which you arrogate to yourselves unrestrained.

“ The dissenters indeed had vainly imagined that Secker, who was an advocate for mildness and lenity, and always insisted on the

* *The Societies for propagating the Gospel, and for promoting Christian Knowledge.*

toleration which was granted them, being maintained sacred and inviolate, would some time or other betray to them the privileges and authority of the established church, and would not only pardon their errors, but would also bestow on them praise and rewards. What wonder that wilful men, deceived by false hopes, should have recourse to abuse, and the bugbears of specious charges held forth to the public? Mean-while the archbishop was not wanting to himself, or to the dignity of the church of England. Behold then a † combat, manifestly unequal, of rashness with prudence, of fury and obstinacy with moderation and equity, of puritanic malignity with Christian charity. Be it a reproach to others that this salutary advice was given in vain; our prelate certainly has left the fairest testimony of his own conscience, and at the same time a valuable pledge of his benevolence to the church, and to the Americans.

P. 38. "At length I seem to approach with him to the period of his labours. Behold a fight worthy of God! a good man courageously struggling with pain, and triumphing over the terrors of death, in the close and in the course of his life equally admirable! I seem to sit by him, to accost him, to philosophize with him, to hear his lessons of Christian fortitude and patience. I see the officious attention or silent solicitude of the standers by, in particular of those ladies, whom he always justly held most dear.

These weep the living Hector as the dead.

I see, in short, every thing agitated with fear and sorrow, except his own mind: that in all these sufferings, even to the last extremity, amidst the severest agonies of a decayed body, is tranquil and sedate. O unkind wishes of his friends which promised a long continuance of a life just ending! To him, indeed, who had lived long enough for nature, long enough even for glory, scarce any thing was wanting to complete his felicity but an easy death; having duly prayed for this, we do not so much complain that he is deprived of life, as we congratulate his being crowned with immortality.

P. 39. "Finally, for the sake of the public, I am desirous that the honourable remembrance of so laudable an example, profitable even to posterity, may always flourish and be renowned. I on this subject have been diligent to exert myself to the utmost; and therefore have willingly given this testimony as well of private duty and friendship as public veneration and regard. I have now only to entreat you to pardon my ambition (vain perhaps, but certainly not unbecoming) which desires nothing more ardently than to have this remembrance of our friendship preserved amidst such various eulogiums, and that this token, such as it is, which you see consecrated to the memory of the Archbishop of Canterbury, may, together with his, be inscribed with the name of JOHN BURTON."

† Answer to Dr. Mayhew.

Memoirs of the Life of the late Dr. Samuel Chandler.*

DR. Chandler was descended from ancestors heartily engaged in the cause of non-conformity, and sufferers for the Liberty of Conscience. His grandfather, Chandler a tradesman at Taunton, in Somersetshire, was much injured in his fortune by the persecutions under Charles II. but bore cheerfully *the spoiling of his goods*, that he might preserve his peace of mind, and his title to the *better and more enduring substance in Heaven inviolate*.

His father, the Rev. Mr. Henry Chandler, was a dissenting minister, of considerable worth and abilities, who spent the greater part of his ministerial life at Bath, where he maintained an honourable name. Mr. Samuel Chandler, his eldest son, was born at Hungerford, in Berks, where his father was then a minister, in 1693. Discovering early a genius for learning, it was cultivated with care, and he was placed under masters, with whom he made such improvements in classical learning, that few carry from the college so large a stock of this, and particularly of the Greek, as he was master of before he went to the academy.

Being determined for the ministry, he was first sent to an academy at Bridgewater, whence he was soon removed to Gloucester, that he might be a pupil of the very learned and ingenious Mr. Samuel Jones, who had opened an academy in that city, with great

reputation, which he long supported, as he applied himself with uncommon diligence to cultivate the minds of his pupils; in which he was not a little animated by the distinguished geniuses of several of them; one of whom was the famous Dr. Butler, who died Bishop of Durham, and another, the late Archbishop of Canterbury. That emulation which such companions in study must excite, and the mutual light and assistance they would communicate, could not but greatly contribute to render Mr. Chandler richly furnished in the several parts of literature and science, to which he applied; and particularly in critical, biblical, and oriental learning. And the acquaintance and friendship which then commenced, was continued with reciprocal instances of esteem and regard to the end of life, notwithstanding their different stations and engagements.

Mr. Chandler leaving the academy, began to preach about July 1714, and entering upon his sacred employments, with such abilities, and these so well improved, was soon taken notice of; and chosen to be their minister by the presbyterian congregation at Peckham, near London, in 1716, and served them in the Gospel of Christ, with acceptance, and reputation; till he was called thence to minister to the society in the Old Jewry, one of the most considerable presbyterian churches in the city. While Mr. Chandler was employed at Peckham, some gentlemen of the several denominations of dissenters in the city, came

* Prefixed to four volumes of his sermons lately published by Dr. Thomas Amory.

to a resolution to set up and support a weekly evening-lecture at the Old Jewry for the winter half year; the subjects treated in which were to be the *evidences of natural and revealed religion*, and *answers to the principal objections* urged against them; and they chose two of the most eminent young ministers in each denomination for executing this design. Of these Mr. Chandler, was one, and the very worthy and learned Dr. Lardner another.

When this lecture was dropped, another of the same kind was set up, to be preached by one person, and Mr. Chandler was chosen for this service. In the course of this lecture he preached some sermons on the confirmation which *miracles* gave to the divine mission of Christ, and the truth of his religion; and vindicated the argument against the objections of Collins, in his *Grounds and Reasons*, &c. *. These sermons, by the advice of a friend, he threw into the form of a continued treatise, and printed. This work gained him high reputation, and made way for his being called, upon the first vacancy, to settle with the congregation in the Old Jewry, about the year 1725; first as an *assistant*, and afterwards as their pastor. Here he ministered to the religious improvement and eternal felicity of an affectionate

and generous people for forty years, with an encreasing and established reputation; which how well it was deserved, his discourses formerly and now printed, sufficiently manifest.

Perhaps it may be of use to studious persons, of tender constitutions to be informed that Mr. Chandler, in the younger part of life, was subject to frequent and dangerous *fevers*; one of which confined him more than three months, and threatened, by its effects, to disable him for public service. He was, therefore, advised to go into the *vegetable diet*, in which he continued for twelve years. This produced so happy an alteration in his constitution, that though he afterwards returned to the usual way of living, he enjoyed an uncommon share of vigour and spirits till seventy.

Among other learned and useful designs which Mr. Chandler had formed, he began a Commentary on the Prophets. Having finished Joel, which he published, and gone a great way in Isaiah, he met with the manuscript Lexicon and Lectures of the famous Arabic Professor Schultens, who much recommends the explaining the difficult words and phrases of the Hebrew language, by comparing them with the Arabic: this determined Mr. Chandler to study the Hebrew a-new, with this light be-

* The author of these memoirs might have remarked, that Dr. Chandler was not the fairest disputant in the lists of Theological Controversy; for though frequently foiled in his arguments, he shewed great cunning in the art of evasion; by having recourse to his knowledge in the dead languages (which he was fond of displaying) in order to perplex and bewilder his adversaries, and giving explications of words and things not generally understood; thus perverting their true signification to answer his own purposes.

fore him, and to drop his Commentary till he should thus have satisfied himself that he had attained the genuine sense of the sacred writers; and having once dropped it, a variety of other engagements prevented his resuming and finishing his original plan.

While he was thus employed in advancing the interests of religion, learning, and liberty, he received the highest literary honour from two universities, Edinburgh and Aberdeen, who each of them sent him, unasked, the diploma of D. D.

Before I conclude these brief memoirs, I would mention two or three facts, which justice to the doctor's memory will not allow me to omit. The *first* is, that the *widows* and *orphans* of poor dissenting ministers are greatly indebted to him for that fund which has relieved so many of their necessities. He first formed the design of it, and by his interest and applications engaged a number of gentlemen in the generous subscription, that laid the foundation on which this excellent charity has since risen to its present greatness; and to this fund he continued a zealous friend to the last. Two other facts I shall transcribe from the sermon preached at his funeral.

The one is, that the high reputation which he had gained, by his defences of the Christian religion, procured him, from some of the governors of the established church, the offers of considerable preferment, which he nobly declined. He valued more than

these, the liberty and integrity of his conscience, and scorned, for any worldly considerations, to profess as divine truths, doctrines which he did not really believe, and to practise in religion what he did not inwardly approve. An honourable sacrifice to truth and honesty, and well compensated by the affection and generosity of his people; as far as such sacrifices are recompensed on this side the grave.

The *other* fact is this: When it had pleased God, during the last years of his life, to visit him with frequent returns of a most painful disorder, he bore these with a *resignation* becoming the *faith* of a *Christian*, grew visibly more disengaged from *temporal things*, and often with warmth declared, that to secure the divine felicity promised by Christ, was the principal and almost only thing that made life desirable; that to attain this, he would gladly die, submitting himself entirely to God, as to the time and manner of death, whose will was most righteous and good; and being persuaded, that *all was well, which ended for eternity*.

ANECDOTES and CHARACTERS of eminent Painters*.

ANTONIO ALLEGRI; commonly called, CORREGGIO. Born at Correggio, 1494, and there died, 1534.

IT happened, that after many ages passed in ignorance, Nature, weary of her bondage, and willing to repair her losses, by rendering to the arts their original lustre,

* From a catalogue lately published by Mr. Strange.

lustre, drew them from that obscurity into which the barbarism of the times had plunged them. There appeared one of those rare and happy geniuses, who, guided by instinct alone, and without any assistance from those who had gone before him, planned out new tracts in science, and became the admiration of his contemporaries, leaving behind him objects worthy the imitation of his successors. Such was Correggio, who, born in a little village, where perhaps no painter had ever existed, and at a critical period, even in the dawn of the arts, diffused a glorious light over painting, which did at that time astonish, and still continues to surprize the spectator. He at once banished that sterility of taste, which during so long a time had disfigured the art of painting; and, taking a sudden and rapid flight, he raised himself to the sublime. He saw every thing great: he did not introduce into the generality of his compositions, a multitude of figures; but only such as were useful and employed. He gave them new motions, he added to their out-lines certain forms, which perhaps are not always strictly agreeable to the chaste rules of design; but they have, however, their captivating allurements. What the poet said may be here applied;

*He snatch'd a grace beyond the rules
of art.*

The agreeable smile, and those amiable graces, which ever attended his ideas, and which he diffused with such profusion over his characters, may be perhaps taxed with being forced and unnatural; but they are, however, not less

seducing: an easy and flowing pencil, an union and harmony of colours peculiar to himself, a perfect intelligence of light and shade, produced by large and broad masses, give an astonishing relief to all the pictures he has painted. The works of this divine painter cannot be too much studied. The Carracci were sensible of it, and reaped considerable advantages from them. Whoever, from their example, will reflect on them with attention, may be sure of acquiring the most important principles of their art.

DOMENICO ZAMPIERI, commonly called DOMENICHINO. Born in Bologna, 1581, died at Naples 1641.

HE was born with a docility of temper, and solidity of judgment; but in appearance he was rather slow of comprehension. It was long before the least hopes could be formed of this great artist. Annibale Carracci only, under whom he at length studied, knew how to distinguish the hidden talents of a scholar ever listening to the voice of instruction, and whom a laborious and painful application never discouraged. Time soon discovered in this man a painter, jealous of his reputation, and capable of expressing in the characters and the motion of his figures, the most sublime passions, and attitudes the most difficult to compose. He made it a rule to represent nothing which he saw not in nature, and never to deviate from that pure simplicity which belongs to her. Absorbed in the most profound meditation, he never began a work till his

ideas were thoroughly digested. If he had any failing, it was that of being too fearful of himself, and distrustful of the great abilities he possessed.

LUCA GIORDANO. *Born at Naples, 1632, died in the same city 1705.*

WE may say with propriety of this painter, that he was a real Proteus. There is scarce a manner into which he did not transform himself. At one time he is Paolo Veronese, or Tintoret, whose compositions he imitated, even to deception; at another, we fancy we see the pictures of Pietro da Cortona. So perfectly did he transform himself into the style of Bassano, that it is even difficult for the most judicious connoisseurs to defend themselves against the illusion. He seized and retained the ideas of those, and many other masters, with a fidelity that is without example. However, it would be injurious to his reputation to imagine he solely employed his talents in these and the like deceptions; they were only the subjects of his amusement: he knew better how to fill up his time; and the prodigious quantity of important compositions with which he filled Italy and Spain, are evident proofs of his abilities. The ceiling of the Ricardi Palace at Florence, is an admirable invention. He possessed such a facility of pencil, that the colours, scarce laid upon the canvass, produce us of themselves their proper effects. No sooner were his subjects conceived, than his pictures were finished; and it was owing to that extreme promptitude that he got the name of Luca

fa Presto, which he ever afterwards retained.

GIOVANNI FRANCESCO BARBIERI, *commonly called GUERCINO, born at Cento, 1590, died in the same city, 1666.*

IT is evident that this artist was born with uncommon talents for painting; for without having ever left the little city which gave him birth, and where there was never any painter of reputation, on having only seen and studied an excellent picture of Ludovico Carracci, he made such rapid progress in the art to which he had devoted himself, that on his arrival at Bologna, as yet a youth, he astonished those who were witnesses of his first essays. Having never had an opportunity of adopting any particular manner, he acquired one which was much suited to his genius, and which, by the great masses of light and shade, and the knowledge he attained to in colouring, produced effects that were extremely captivating. Much of his life was spent in his profession; for he was employed in a prodigious number of pictures in oil, both for altar-pieces, and such as were intended to adorn the cabinets of the great; without, however, reflecting that fresco and grand compositions were yet more suitable to his genius; such, for example, as he painted in the dome of the cathedral church of Piacenza, or that wonderful ceiling of the Aurora, which we admire at Rome in the villa Ludovici.—These are two master-pieces which can never be sufficiently extolled.

LEONARDO

LEONARDO DA VINCI. *Born in the Castle of Vine in Tuscany 1443, died in France, in the arms of Francis I. 1518.*

IT required a man of as much genius, refinement, and universal knowledge, as Leonardo da Vinci, to attempt to retrieve painting from that languishing state into which it had been plunged for so many ages. Cimabue, who is esteemed as its restorer, and the other artists who succeeded him, laboured without principles. Their works were dry, insipid, and tasteless. Solid and judicious reflections dictated to Leonardo the necessity of a reformation. He therefore consulted nature; and nature suggested to him the means. She soon taught him, that the beauties with which she is adorned, are only to be discovered by such as study them with discernment; that the character of heads, as well as the motion of figures, are infinite, and depend upon the knowledge of the muscles, which is inseparable from the study of anatomy; that the different passions of the soul are to be expressed in the countenance by means of the arrangement of certain features; that it is by a just distribution of colours, as well as of light and shadow, that objects have relief, and appear natural. These reflections Leonardo reduced to rules and principles; and he was the first who faithfully observed them. It is not therefore to be wondered at, that, absorbed in such profound meditations, he laboured so little with his own hand; and it is to be observed that he never painted any thing that was not extremely finished, and

in which he did not aim at perfection. It must be added, that he had a decisive taste for the sciences, and particularly for mathematics, which employed great part of his time. He invented machines; he undertook and completed many important works which rendered him useful to society; and he was cherished by many princes who sought and cultivated his acquaintance.

CARLO MARATTI. *Born at Camerona in the Marche of Ancona, 1625, died at Rome 1713.*

WERE I to point out to any one who destines himself to the study of painting, the necessity of a severe application during his youth, and to shew him the advantages that would naturally result from it, I could not possibly instance a more striking example than that of Carlo Maratti. Indefatigable in his application, he spared no pains where it was necessary to attain knowledge. He was, during his youth, familiarized with a middling state of fortune, which contributed to his assiduity in designing and painting after the works of the greatest masters, after those of Raphael. For many years he employed the whole day in this exercise; and his evenings in reflecting on what he had seen and done. Filled with those great ideas, he often attempted to put his own on paper—nor was it long before his abilities shone forth. In the first pictures which he exposed to the public, the result of his good conduct appeared; and the approbation he then met with, facilitated his future undertakings. He executed many large

large pictures, in which he displayed great knowledge of composition; even grace in the attitude of his figures, and a general accuracy of design,

PAOLO CALIARI, commonly called
PAOLO VERONESE. *Born at
Verona, 1532, died at Venice
1588.*

THE impression which the works of this famous painter made upon the Carracci, when they undertook a journey to Venice, with an intention to study colouring and composition from the pictures of the great masters of this school, forms a prejudice which is decisive in favour of their excellence. Seized with admiration at the sight of the vast and magnificent compositions of Paolo Veronese, and not less astonished at the fertility of his genius and the freedom of his pencil, they almost forgot Correggio, whom they had hitherto adored; and indeed when we consider the immense quantity of fine things with which he has enriched the churches and palaces of Venice, it is difficult to comprehend that the life of a single man, and which was not extremely long, should have been sufficient to complete them. The picture alone of the marriage of Cana in the refectory of St. Giorgio Maggiore, which has merit enough to immortalize its author—has likewise sufficient matter to occupy for a long time the most active pencil; so carefully and delicately it is painted, and filled with figures equally varied and interesting.

NICOLAS POUSSIN. *Born at Andeli, a City of Normandy, 1594, died at Rome, 1665.*

WHEN we consider the character of Poussin, the taste he had for the antique, and for the works of the great painters with which Italy abounded, we shall find that the climate of Rome was more suitable to his genius than that of his own country; nor did he hesitate to give it the preference: and, if in the course of things he absented himself for some time, it was with regret, and with a resolution of returning again to that city, so dear to him, where he enjoyed that tranquillity and satisfaction he so much courted. On his first arrival at Rome, his mind was already furnished with poetical ideas; and his easy and agreeable pencil had already attained the art of colouring. At that time he had studied the works of Titian. Associated with his friend Fiamingo, the celebrated sculptor, he studied the antique with great care; and soon after this, his pictures assumed a character of gravity, which perhaps introduced itself at the expence of colouring: that, doubtless, gave way to a learned and judicious manner, which likewise gained in sentiment and expression. The pictures of Poussin became more interesting than ever, by the choice of his subjects, and a religious observance of the manners and customs of the people he introduced: we even fancy them present, and we are tempted to interrogate the different personages he brings upon the scene.

RAFFAELLO DA URBINO. *Born at Urbino 1483, died at Rome 1520.*

THE different branches of painting in which the celebrated Apelles excelled, and which rendered his name so illustrious with antiquity, seem, in these latter ages, to have been united in the person of the divine Raphael, to justify the ancient writers, and show that in the praises which they gave to the works of this great artist of Greece, there was nothing exaggerated. They have affirmed, that never painter diffused more grace in his compositions, nor elegance in the disposing of his figures; that their motions were so just and so natural, that one was tempted to believe they were alive; that he treated every subject with nobleness and with dignity, and often in a manner so pathetic, that the spectators were affected with the most singular impressions; that his pictures engaged and interested, by the truth of their expressions, and the art with which they moved the passions of the soul; that, in short, those rare and perfect productions excited the desire of kings, and became the objects of the jealousy of cities which could not possess them. Is there any thing in what has been here said, which is not applicable to Raphael, and which does not characterize him in the strongest manner? Let a man of judgment enter into the apartments of the Vatican; let him examine the sublime pictures which decorate those walls; or, in the same manner, let him consider attentively the invaluable cartoons of the acts of the apostles, which are the glory

of the British nation, and say if he can refrain from acknowledging that he finds there assembled every species of beauty and perfection which were admired in the works of the Grecian painter? What is not less surprizing, each of those artists possessed the same qualities of heart and mind: they were esteemed by the great; they made their art respectable; they exercised it with dignity; and each has his name so written in the book of Fame, as never to be obliterated.

GIOVANNI FRANCESCO ROMANELLI. *Born at Viterbo 1612, died in the same city 1662.*

IT is not sufficient that we are born with talents, but it is required that our manners be answerable to them. If they are honourable, they procure to us friends and benefactors, who interest themselves in our advancement, by becoming our patrons and our protectors. Romanelli proved what I affirm, and may be cited as an example. His integrity of manners gained him the esteem of all who knew him, and in particular that of Cardinal Barberini. This eminent patron gave him an asylum in his own palace; and, which was still more advantageous to him, facilitated his entry into the celebrated school of Pietro da Cortona. It was there, that, applying himself to study, and preserving his purity of manners, he acquired that grace which renders his compositions in general so agreeable. If he did not attain that fire which animated the works of his master, he at least distinguished himself by that elegant

grant simplicity which reigns in the generality of his own. He diffused through his pictures a sweetness and grace, which not only predominates in the countenances, but in the attitudes and motion of the figures which he employs. The same sweetness extends even to the tone of his colouring, which is extremely harmonious; and is particularly conspicuous in his fresco paintings.

Sir PETER PAUL RUBENS. Born at Cologne in 1577, died at Antwerp in 1640.

NEITHER the favour in which Rubens lived with Princes, and other distinguished personages; nor his superior talents for negotiation, which entitled him to appear in a public character at the courts of crowned heads; nor his profound erudition, and the distinguished employments which were the recompence of his services; will ever do him so much honour as painting procured him, to the study of which he preferably devoted himself, and exercised it with amazing success. Italy, where he made a long abode, furnished him abundantly with the means of instructing himself. Mantua, which received him first, presented him with the astonishing and ingenious paintings of Giulio Romano. It was here his genius was fired. He went afterwards to Venice, where he studied the works of Titian, Tintorett, and Paolo Veronese. A taste for colouring, and for the rich compositions of these masters, here took possession of him. The studies which he made at Rome were upon the point of perfecting his

design, which was visible by some of his first productions; but the charms of colouring predominated, and, when he returned to his own country, nature not presenting him with the same idea of beauty, and he continuing to consult her, he was less attentive to fine forms than to express, with all the richness of colouring, his figures, such as he saw them, frequently overcharged, if I may use the expression, *de trop d'embonpoint*. He principally excelled in the magnificence of his compositions, and in the knowledge of light and shadow, which he reduced to certain rules, and from which he reaped the greatest advantage. As an able artist he likewise received considerable assistance from a brilliant and numerous school, which he formed, and without which it would have been impossible for him, however laborious and expeditious he was, to have executed the prodigious quantity of pictures he left behind him. Of these, though many were not wholly painted by himself, there are none that did not pass through his hands and receive his last touches; which alone required a force of genius, and an assiduity, of which there is scarce any example.

ANDREA SACCHI. Born at Nettuno in 1599, died at Rome 1661.

THE indifferent opinion which this artist entertained of himself, an ill-placed timidity, a want of resolution, which he could seldom overcome, have often withheld his hands, and deprived the world of many things which reflection, study,

study, and a natural taste for what was truly beautiful, rendered him capable of producing. He was a favourite disciple of Albani; and the immortal works of Raphael and Domenichino, for which all his life-time he preserved an esteem that almost carried him to adoration, unfolded those talents which his master had the ability to distinguish, and from which he foretold that he would become one of the greatest artists of the age. Andrea Sacchi having happily verified that opinion, and having acquired a distinguished reputation in Rome, signalized himself by works, whose noble simplicity was their chief ornament. He united innocence with grace; the airs of his figures were easy and agreeable; his design was pure and without affectation; and the tone of his colouring, without being extremely vigorous, acquired a sweetness and delicacy which produced great harmony. It was thus that, almost in spite of himself, he occupied the distinguished rank to which Albani had formerly destined him.

SALVATOR ROSA. *Born at Naples 1615, died at Rome 1673.*

IT may be attributed rather to a degree of vanity that Salvator Rosa imagined his small pictures, representing landscapes and sea-pieces, were not worthy of his pencil; and that his large historical compositions alone would transmit his name to posterity as a great painter. But the public who are seldom deceived in their judgment, did not adopt this way of thinking; they equally admired every thing which came from

the hands of this great artist: they render justice to his large compositions, which are in general wonderfully executed, and with a spirit and freedom of pencil peculiar to himself. His smaller pictures are, not without reason, less admired; where we meet with figures which are touched with all imaginable spirit and art, and become the principal ornament of his landscapes. Sometimes this painter represents a shore, covered with vessels of various kinds, and differently employed. Sometimes we meet with immense rocks heaped on each other, interspersed with branches of trees, and the whole washed with a sea, alternately calm and tempestuous. At other times the scene changes to a desert country, in a warm climate, which is exposed to the beams of a burning sun; it is here we generally meet with old trunks of trees, and torrents of water of a wonderful transparency. These scenes are, for the most part, enriched with spirited figures; and the whole executed with truth and freedom, and, at the same time, with an intelligence which is beyond description.

GIOVANNI BAPTISTA SALVA, *commonly called SASSO FERRATO, from the place where he was born, about the beginning of the sixteenth century.*

AMONGST the variety of books which have been published on painting in Italy, and upon the lives of the most celebrated artists, we find none from which we can draw the least conclusion with regard either to the precise time in which Sasso Ferrato lived, or in what

what school he was educated. This is the more surprizing when we consider that his pictures, which are altogether agreeable, have of a long time acquired a considerable reputation. It is but lately that the true name of his family was discovered, that by which he was known till then, being the name of the place where he was born, *viz.* a small village upon the confines of the Marche of Ancona. It has been presumed that he studied painting under Guido Reni; nor is this conjecture without foundation, many of his pictures having much of the character of that master. It is sufficient that we admire in his works those amiable graces which he has often diffused, and to which he has united a freshness of colouring. It does not appear that his genius was extremely extensive, because we only meet with small pictures of his invention, and for the most part subjects of devotion: such as Madonnas, holy families, &c.

ELISABETTA SIRANI. *Born at Bologna 1638, died in the same city 1664.*

SHE was the daughter of Giovanni Andrea Sirani, and as she had no other master, it is not surprizing that her pencil is so suited to that of Guido, with whom her father had studied, and had become a perfect imitator of him. She began to paint at an early age; and considering the extreme care with which she executed her works, and the few years which she employed, she left behind her a considerable number of pictures, some of which were even large compositions. Her favourite sub-

ject was the holy family; which, although so often treated, received new graces from the hand of this amiable paintress, shewing that her genius was easy and abundant.

EUSTACHE LE SUEUR. *Born at Paris 1617, died in the same city 1655.*

WITHOUT having made the journey of Italy, without having seen Rome, or any of those excellent paintings which that city presents to us, Le Sueur, born without any happy auspices, brought into the world with him a taste so approaching to that of Raphael, that if we did not know the distance of time, between the death of the one and the birth of the other, we should suspect that the French painter had received no other instruction but in the school of the Italian. At most he could have seen but a few of the pictures of this great artist; he probably likewise had recourse to some of his drawings and prints from him by Marc Antonio. And who does not avail himself of these resources? but all are not endowed with the same judgment and sagacity. His, doubtless, at the first glance, dictated to him the advantages which he might promise himself from the imitation of a manner so learned and so noble. He soon abandoned the principles he had imbibed under Vouet, by which he could never have become more than a middling painter. The more he advanced in his art, the more his compositions approached towards excellence. The study of perspective which he had cultivated in his youth, rendered him difficult in the position of his figures, and

and whatever else he introduced into his compositions. His heads and his attitudes were just and expressive, and rendered the subjects he treated affecting and pathetic. His draperies are cast with art, and reduced only to the necessary folds; they are designed without affectation, and shew the naked which they embrace. His pencil became bold; his colouring improved; and what might not have been expected from an artist in the full vigour of life; whose progress had hitherto been so rapid: but inexorable death deprived the art of painting of a master who seemed born to revive it in its full splendour.

CHARACTER and ANECDOTES of
CHARLES V. Emperor of Germany,
and King of Spain *.

CHARLES V. was born at Ghent, Feb. 24, 1500. He was son to Philip, surnamed the Fair, archduke of Austria, who was son to the Emperor Maximilian, and Jane, Infanta of Spain, daughter to Ferdinand the Catholic, King of Arragon and Castille. He was not above six or seven years old when he lost his father. Queen Jane, his mother, was so afflicted at the death of her husband, that she lost her senses. The education of the young Archduke Charles was committed to Adrian, a native of Flanders, who was af-

terwards Pope, and to the Duke de Chievres of the house of Croy. The emperor Maximilian himself took great pains that his grandson should learn all that was necessary to form the hero and the warrior, foreseeing that the empire would for a long time remain in his family. It was settled that Ferdinand should have the regency of Castille during the minority of the archduke, and that he should annually supply 200,000 ducats for the support of his household.

Charles testified a great disposition for the living languages then in vogue, French, Spanish, Italian, English, and Flemish: and he used to say, that he wanted to be master of the Italian, to speak to the Pope, Spanish to speak to Queen Jane his Mother, English to speak to Queen Catharine his aunt, Flemish to converse with his friends, and French to amuse himself. But riding seemed to attract his greatest attention; and he was so extremely fond of this exercise, that it was judged expedient to restrain the indulgence of this inclination, lest his health should be prejudiced by it. He rode the great horse with more address at ten years old, than others do at twenty; he also fired a pistol, and shot the cross-bow, with much dexterity. With respect to mathematics, geography, navigation, and mechanicks, his masters were astonished at the progress he made in them.

In the year 1515, Charles was

* *The publication of the History of the Reign of Charles V. by Dr. Robertson, having given birth to several accounts of this great monarch in the public prints, we have carefully perused them all, in order that we might be enabled to render this account as intelligible as possible.*

declared

declared to be of age, and the Emperor appointed him governor of the low countries. This young sovereign immediately entered into an alliance with Francis I. who had just succeeded Lewis XII. The following year he signed a treaty at Noyon with the same prince: whereby it was stipulated, that Francis I. should retain the dutchy of Milan, and that Navarre should be restored to John Albret. The same year Ferdinand the Catholic, King of Spain, dying, Charles his grandson succeeded him, in default of his mother Jane, who was incapable of taking upon herself the government.

He immediately set out for Spain. Maximilian chose this voyage should be brilliant and pompous, as well with respect to his train, as the number of great lords of the country, who accompanied him. Charles embarked at Ostend under convoy of the fleets of Holland and Zealand, and left the government of the Low-Countries to the Princess Margaret his aunt. Upon his arrival in Spain, he soon exerted those talents which he had received from nature to reign with glory and wisdom; he established his authority in a short time; but he knew how to avail himself of all the discretion that was necessary, having to do with a haughty and delicate nation with respect to every thing that might wound their customs. This seems to be a proper place to give an idea of the external appearance of this prince. Charles was in stature somewhat above the middle size, between the extreme of fat and lean; he had an aquiline nose, and a large forehead. He was nervous and robust; his complexi-

on was sanguine, blended with something of the melancholy, which physiognomists pronounced the signs of perseverance and strength of mind, the truth of which he fully testified; to which they might have added of a suspicious and obstinate character in his pursuits. His lips were somewhat protuberant, a defect that is common to the princes of the house of Austria. He had very little beard; his hair was fair, and cut close to the bottom of the ears, in the manner of the ancient Roman Emperors; his constitution was very healthful till about his fortieth year, when he was afflicted with the gout.

Let us now examine the basis of his character, according to the portraits of the greatest masters, who really have not flattered him, and who have only painted from the testimonies of all historians. Charles V. was of a serious, pensive disposition; the vivacity of his imagination was not so great as the sagacity of his mind; fond of business, his plans were all skilfully drawn, and he secured success by artifice and dissimulation. Slow at forming designs, he pursued them when taken with unshaken constancy; he bestowed his favours on none but those whose mental capacities and warlike skill had been conspicuous: the ambition of his heart was unlimited; but this he concealed under the appearances of moderation and honesty; speaking but little, always with gravity and propriety; inviting others by a soft insinuating manner to disclose themselves, whilst he constantly concealed his own designs, and never losing sight of the different dispositions of all the powers of Europe;

Europe; possessed of greater abilities than all his ministers, and never mistaken in his choice of generals; in a word, possessing all the qualities of the greatest politicians of his age. In other respects he possessed but few of those virtues of the heart, which do honour to a private station, being no way tenacious of good faith, or scrupulous of breaking his word, or forgetting his promise, though ever so solemn: whilst his discourse shone with the external brilliancy of these virtues. Charles, says Mezerai, was severe, grave, silent, reserved, dissembling; a great imitator of the artifices and deceiving manners of Lewis XI. having useful vices and political virtues.

Justice, however, must be done to his great qualities; he had, in part, those which belong to an illustrious prince: he knew how to command, to menace, and reward. Indefatigable in the operations of war, he sometimes remained ten hours successively on horseback, bearing arms, and performing every function of the most circumspect general; resolute and intrepid in enterprize, he braved the greatest dangers; he never knew what it was to lose his presence of mind, or make a retreat. It is with astonishment we find in his history, how he flew to distant and remote regions; having travelled nine times from Spain to Germany; visited Italy seven

times; traversed Flanders ten; been four times in France, twice in Africa and England; crossed the ocean four times, and the Mediterranean eight.

He was doubtless the greatest prince that hath ever sprung from the august house of Austria. He was a soldier and a politician; so that finding himself master of so many kingdoms and provinces, he might have subjugated all Europe, if the valour of Francis I. had not prevented him. Various circumstances concurred to bring these two princes together; but fortune always declared herself in favour of Charles. This kind of ascendancy he owed, first, to the superiority of the forces of the Austrian dominions, and the address with which he framed leagues in his favour, and which were more numerous than those of his enemy: and secondly, To the ill conduct of the French councils, who were guilty of more errors than the courage of the French troops were able to repair.

He resigned his crown, and abdicated the government of his kingdom in 1556, and ended his days in the monastery of Justus, where he gave way to the most illiberal superstition, inflicting on himself the discipline in secret, with such severity, that the whip of cords which he employed as the instrument of his punishment, was found after his death tinged with his blood*. And a short time before

* Historians seem to take this for a fact, though it will admit of great doubt. How do they know that the blood with which the cords of the whip were tinged was the emperor's? might it not be a trick of the priests, to give them an opportunity of exciting others to the same practice, by producing so illustrious an example? We do not pretend to say that it was so;

fore his death, he conceived the whimsical idea of having his funeral service performed; for which purpose, he ordered his tomb to be erected in the chapel of the monastery. His domestics marched thither in funeral procession, with black tapers in their hands: he himself followed in his shroud. He was laid in his coffin, with much solemnity. The service for the dead was chanted, and Charles joined in the prayers which were offered up for the rest of his soul, mingling his tears with those which his attendants shed, as if they had been celebrating a real funeral. The ceremony closed with sprinkling holy water on the coffin in the usual form, and all the assistants retiring, the doors of the chapel were shut. Then Charles rose out of the coffin, and withdrew to his apartment, full of those awful sentiments which such a singular solemnity was calculated to inspire*. This was but the prelude to the real funeral, for either the fatiguing length of the ceremony, or the impression which this image of death left on his mind, affected him so much, that the next day he was seized with a fever. His feeble frame could not long resist its violence, and he expired on the twenty-first of September, 1558, after a life of fifty-eight years, six months, and twenty-five days, so that he enjoyed

the promised happiness of retirement not quite three years. He reigned emperor thirty-eight years.

The art of war was better understood under Charles V. than it ever had been before. His amazing success, the progress of the fine arts in Italy, the reformation of religion in one part of Europe, the increase of commerce by the discovery of America, with the conquest of Mexico and Peru, rendered this age one of the most memorable in history.

After this short account, we cannot resist the temptation of laying before our readers the character of this great prince, as delineated by Dr. Robertson in his history of the reign of Charles V. a work which may be justly ranked among the capital pieces of historical excellence †,

“As Charles was the first prince of the age in rank and dignity, the part which he acted, whether we consider the greatness, the variety, or the success of his undertakings, was the most conspicuous. It is from an attentive observation of his conduct, not from the exaggerated praises of the Spanish historian, or the undistinguishing censure of the French, that a just idea of Charles's genius and abilities is to be collected. He possessed qualities so peculiar, as strongly mark his character, and not only distinguish him from the princes who were his contemporaries, but

yet, a stratagem of this sort would have been far less culpable than many of those pious frauds practised on the ignorance and credulity of weak minds, by the clergy of the church of Rome.

* Surely this was an act as wild and uncommon as any that superstition ever suggested to a weak and disordered fancy.

† The reader will find some curious extracts from this history among our miscellanies.

account

account for that superiority over them which he so long maintained. In forming his schemes, he was by nature, as well as by habit, cautious and considerate. Born with talents, which unfolded themselves slowly, and were late in attaining maturity; he was accustomed to ponder every subject that demanded his consideration with a careful and deliberate attention. He bent the whole force of his mind towards it, and dwelling upon it with a serious application, undiverted by pleasure, and hardly relaxed by any amusement, he revolved it in silence in his own breast. He then communicated the matter to his ministers, and after hearing their opinions, took his resolution with a decisive firmness, which seldom follows such slow consultations. In consequence of this, Charles's measures, instead of resembling the desultory and irregular sallies of Henry VIII. or Francis I. had the appearance of a consistent system, in which all the parts were arranged, the effects were foreseen, and the accidents were provided for. His promptitude in execution was no less remarkable than his patience in deliberation. He consulted with phlegm, but he acted with vigour, and did not discover greater sagacity in his choice of the measures which it was proper to pursue, than fertility of genius in finding out the means for rendering his pursuit of them successful. Though he had naturally so little of the martial turn, that during the most ardent and bustling period of life, he remained in the cabinet inactive; yet, when he chose at length to appear at the head of his army, his mind was

so formed for vigorous exertions in every direction, that he acquired such knowledge in the art of war, and such talents for command, as rendered him equal in reputation and success to the most able generals of the age. But Charles possessed, in the most eminent degree, the science which is of the greatest importance to a monarch, that of knowing men, and of adapting their talents to the various departments which he allotted to them. From the death of Chievres to the end of his reign, he employed no general in the field, no minister in the cabinet, no ambassador to a foreign court, no governor of a province, whose abilities were inadequate to the trust reposed in them. Though destitute of that bewitching affability of manners, which gained Francis the hearts of all who approached his person; he was no stranger to the virtues which secure fidelity and attachment. He placed unbounded confidence in his generals; he rewarded their services with munificence; he neither envied their fame, nor discovered any jealousy of their power. Almost all the generals who conducted his armies, may be placed on a level with those illustrious personages, who have attained the highest eminence of military glory; and his advantages over his rivals, are to be ascribed so manifestly to the superior abilities of the commanders whom he set in opposition to them, that this might seem to detract, in some degree, from his own merit, if the talent of discovering and employing such instruments were not the most undoubted proof of a capacity for government.

“There were, nevertheless, defects in his political character, which must considerably abate the admiration due to his extraordinary talents. Charles’s ambition was insatiable: and though there seems to be no foundation for an opinion prevalent in his own age, that he had formed the chimerical project of establishing an universal monarchy in Europe, it is certain, that his desire of being distinguished as a conqueror, involved him in continual wars, which exhausted and oppressed his subjects, and left him little leisure for giving attention to the interior police and improvement of his kingdoms, the great objects of every prince who makes the happiness of his people the end of his government. Charles, at a very early period of life, having added the Imperial crown to the kingdoms of Spain, and to the hereditary dominions of the houses of Austria and Burgundy; this opened to him such a vast field of enterprize, and engaged him in schemes so complicated, as well as arduous, that feeling his power to be unequal to the execution of these, he had often recourse to low artifices unbecoming his superior talents, and sometimes ventured on such deviations from integrity, as were dishonourable in a great prince. His insidious and fraudulent policy appeared more conspicuous, and was rendered more odious, by a comparison with the open and undesigning character of his contemporaries, Francis I. and Henry VIII. This difference, tho’ occasioned chiefly by the diversity of their tempers, must be ascribed, in some degree, to such an opposition in the principles of their po-

litical conduct, as affords some excuse for this defect in Charles’s behaviour, though it cannot serve as a justification of it. Francis and Henry seldom acted but from the impulse of their passions, and rushed head-long towards the object in view. Charles’s measures being the result of cool reflection, were disposed into a regular system, and carried on upon a concerted plan. Persons who act in the former manner, naturally pursue the end in view without assuming any disguise, or displaying much address. Such as hold the latter course, are apt in forming, as well as executing their designs, to employ such refinements as always lead to artifice in conduct, and often degenerate into deceit.”

To these accounts of this great monarch, we shall add a few particulars which have been omitted by Dr. Robertson in his excellent history.

On the morning of the day in which he made a solemn resignation of his hereditary dominions, he invested his son Philip with the sovereignty of the order of the knights of the Golden Fleece. When the queen dowager of Hungary resigned the government of the Netherlands, Philip appointed Emanuel Philibert, Duke of Savoy, to succeed her in that post. On the emperor’s arrival in Spain (after his abdication) he staid two days at Valladolid, where his grandson Charles was educated, instructing him in the principles of virtue. The valley on the borders of Portugal to which he retired, is said to be the same that the celebrated Q. Sertorius also chose for his retreat, when proscribed by Sylla, and

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and where he was treacherously assassinated. There Charles heard of the truce being broken, which gave him great concern, though he comforted himself with the hopes that the success which had lately attended the French, would soon be interrupted by the rashness of the pope, and the perfidy of his nephews the Caraffas. Philip ordered his father's funeral to be celebrated with great pomp at Brussels, others say at Antwerp; on which occasion, a ship constructed with wonderful art, was guided by Hope standing on the deck; Faith with a cross, sitting near the mast, and Charity holding the helm. His obsequies were also celebrated with great magnificence at the diet of Augsbourg, Feb. 26, 1559, Lewis de Madruce, Bishop of Trent (afterwards cardinal) pronouncing his funeral eulogium; and besides the princes and states of the empire, the ambassadors of all the potentates in Europe being present.

By his empress Isabella, Charles left issue, 1. Philip his successor. 2. Mary Augusta, married to his nephew, afterwards Maximilian II. And 3. Joanna, married to John Prince of Portugal, by whom she had Sebastian Posthumous, who succeeded his grandfather in the kingdom, and who inheriting Charles V's heroism, was killed in an expedition against the Moors.

The emperor's illegitimate issue were, 1. Margaret, first married

to Alexander de Medici, Duke d'Urbino, and secondly to Octavio * de Farnese, Duke of Parma, at whose death she was governess of the Low-Countries. And after the empress's death, which (happened long before Charles's) he had, 2. John of Austria, (by a lady of Ratisbon) who was also governor of the Low-Countries. These illicit amours he kept so secret, that none of his most intimate friends knew the name of Margaret's mother; nor did he ever mention John, till a few days before his death, when he desired his attendants to recommend him to his son Philip. "A memorable lesson," Thuanus adds, "to princes, whose lives are public examples, that what faults they have, they should commit in secret and by stealth †." The empress died soon after being delivered of a dead child, May 1, 1539, nineteen years before the emperor. He shewed a real, but silent sorrow. In his journey through France, being not without suspicion, and knowing how great an influence the Dutchess of Estampes had on the king, he took occasion as they were talking together by the fire side, to let fall a ring of great value from his finger, which she immediately took up, and presented to him. Upon this, the emperor said, smiling, "Madam, it is your's, emperors and kings take nothing which they have once let fall." But the duchess excus-

* This Octavio, in Dr. Robertson's history, Vol. III. page 187, is styled the emperor's son-in-law; but how he became so, is not, as we remember, any where related.

† This maxim is similar to what Hamlet says to his mother, in the tragedy of that name: "Assume a virtue if you have it not."

ing herself, on account of the value of the Jewel; Charles replied, "Keep it, it will put you in mind of my journey through France." She obeyed, and it is hinted that the expedient had the proposed effect. The emperor's death was followed in three weeks by that of his most beloved sister, Mary, queen dowager of Hungary, a woman endued with primitive severity of manners, and with courage beyond her sex. Though she was all her life remarkable for her chastity, yet, in revenge for the incursions that were frequently made by the imperialists, while she governed in the Low-Countries, having been slandered by the French soldiers, in some false and indecent lampoons, as if she had been too intimate with M. Barbançon, a very handsome, but also a most discreet and virtuous man; to shew her abhorrence of this imputation, the emperor could never prevail with her to pardon a young nobleman of the first rank, whom he highly esteemed, who had debauched one of her maids of honour, publicly declaring, that wherever she apprehended him, even though it were in her brother's train, he should be put to death. Charles's person was agreeable, though inclining to corpulence; he was of a middling stature, with blue eyes, an aquiline nose, and pointed chin; and his hair, which was sandy, he always wore so short, that one half of his ears was uncovered. Though he had made no progress in learning, he was perfectly well acquainted with the Flemish, German, Spanish, French, and Italian languages, and understood a little of the Latin. He or-

dered the Courtier of Count Balthazar de Chatillon, Machiavel's Prince, and Polybius, to be translated for his own private use. He delighted in reading the history of Philip de Comines, which he much esteemed, and the Commentaries of Sleidan, whom, by way of raillery, he used to call his lyar. He often amused himself with drawing, was passionately fond of the exercise of arms, and perfectly well skilled in horsemanship, plain in his apparel, and familiar with his domestics; he was naturally amorous, but he carefully concealed this weakness, that irregularity might not be authorized by his example. He was so moderate in his eating and drinking, that when attacked by the gout, he without repining allowed the physicians to regulate his diet by weight and measure, and drunkenness was an excess he could never forgive.

CHARACTER of FRANCIS I. King
of France.

AFTER the character we have given of the emperor Charles V. we imagine it will be no unwelcoming offering to present our readers with a sketch of the character of Francis I. his contemporary and rival in glory. And though the brilliant career of Charles was seen in some degree to eclipse the splendor of the character of Francis, yet, when it is considered, under how many favourable circumstances Charles came to the thrones of Germany and Spain, the vast extent of his dominions, the number of his sub-

jects,

jects, the state of his finances, and his numerous allies, it is rather a matter of astonishment that Francis could make so great a figure against him.

Francis was born at Cognac, in Angoumois, September 12, 1494. He was descended from Charles V. by Lewis Duke of Orleans. Before he mounted the throne, at that age when the passions begin to make themselves known, he was smitten with the charms of Mary of England, second wife to Lewis XII. a young and beautiful princess; and he had the boldness to make her acquainted with his sentiments. The Count d'Angoulême was the best made man at court: the elegance of his figure made but too strong an impression upon Mary; and she was not in the least offended at the declaration of his passion. He had already had a private conference upon the subject with her; and he was flying to her, when Gignaux, a knight of honour to the queen, meeting him more gayly dressed than usual, asked him in raillery, "What great conquest he was meditating?" The young count explained himself, when Grignaux, knitting his brow, said to him—"Good God, what can you think? Would you lose a crown that is waiting for you, and give yourself a matter?" These words struck the prince; his eyes were opened, and he saw all the consequences so prejudicial to himself that might attend the pursuit of his passion; he surmounted it, and from this moment made no farther advances in his amour. He did more, he took care to have the queen's conduct watched very closely, lest the misfortune which

he avoided might fall upon him from another quarter. But the death of Lewis XII. which happened about a year after, removed all his anxiety; and as that prince left no children, Francis, by right of succession, mounted the throne.

In the first year of his reign, no prince ever supported better the high esteem Europe had conceived of his merit. His courage was proof against all the perils of war; and the glory which prejudice unites to bravery and military exploits, was his predominant passion; in all his actions he displayed a real greatness of soul, aiming at superiority only by his superior generosity; incapable of laying snares for his enemies, he opposed them only with courage. The frankness of his character was painted upon his countenance; and his words were a faithful portrait of his sentiments: he piqued himself upon being good, affable, and liberal: every kind of merit was sure to be recompensed by his beneficence. But with all these excellent qualities, it were to have been wished, that he had been less attached to pleasures, more secret in his affairs, more attentive in pursuing the executions of his designs, and that he had not made ministers and generals of his favourites. "Francis I." says Mezerai, "was valiant and generous, religiously tenacious of his word, open and free, but too much addicted to amorous passions; he was clement, familiar, and affable; in a word, this prince had brilliant virtues and destructive vices."

But it is for this very reason that his reign is to be the more admired;

admired; for it is not very astonishing that this prince, seldom favoured by fortune, ill-treated by his mother, the prey of imprudent favourites, betrayed by those in whom he reposed the greatest confidence, should have resisted so gloriously as he did the Emperor Charles V. that is to say, an enemy whose dominions were much more extensive than those of France, who had more treasures and more troops than him, who was a great warrior and a refined politician, almost constantly supported by some other power? Wherefore, when we consider all, it was more glorious for Francis to have preserved his kingdom, under such circumstances, than it was inglorious for Charles not to conquer it. It may be said of these two princes, that had they not been opposed to each other, one of them might have attained universal monarchy; and that as the other powers leagued more frequently in favour of Charles than for Francis, the King of France was more dreaded by them than the emperor.

Scarce had Francis obtained the crown, before he manifested an ardent desire of relieving the dutchy of Milan. Lewis XII. had renounced it; but his renunciation could not prejudice the right of Francis upon this dutchy, whose claim was from his wife Claude, daughter to Lewis XII. and great grand-daughter to John Galias Visconti. Maximilian Sforza was then in possession of this dutchy. Pope Leo X. who had dismembered from it Parma and Placentia, to give them to his brother Julian of Medicis, being informed of the designs of the king of France,

formed a league with the emperor, the king of Spain, and the Cantons of Switzerland, to oppose the entrance of the French into Italy. Of these three powers, the Swiss were the only one who would act; their past success, and particularly the victory they had gained at Navarre, inflamed their courage, and they thought themselves sufficiently powerful to oppose the French alone. They penetrated with a great army into Piedmont, seized upon Suze and Pignerol, and made themselves masters of the passages of the Alps.

Nevertheless, Francis, who was then only twenty years of age, having set out from Grenoble, led on his army, and being informed by the duke of Savoy of a more secret route to pass the Alps, he reached the plains of Coni. Acinard de Prie, who led a detachment towards Genoa, made himself master of Alexandria, and all the country along the Po. The Swiss, finding their measures disconcerted, and the tardiness of the Pope and the Spaniards in sending them money, consented to give up the Milanese to the King for a considerable sum: but this negotiation was frustrated by the intrigues of cardinal de Sion, Francis's greatest enemy.

He was surnamed the Great by some panegyrist: in some respects it was due to him, particularly with regard to his courage, and that noble frankness that is so seldom to be found in persons of his high rank.

Among the maxims of this great prince we find the following: "Vengeance discloses the weakness of a king; mercy displays his magnanimity. Sovereigns command

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command the people; and the laws the sovereign" France is indebted to him for the estimable ordinance of 1539, which served as the ground-work for all the succeeding ones, and particularly those of 1667 and 1670.

Being extremely delicate and scrupulous in whatever regarded the point of honour, he acted with the greatest generosity towards the Catalan ladies, who were taken by a party of his troops upon the frontiers of Catalonia, while the dauphin, his son, was besieging Pampeluna. They were subjects of Spain, and had been taken in open war between the two crowns; nevertheless, their husbands claimed them, and refused paying the ransom; because women, according to the laws of war, they alledged, were not subject to the events of it, which their sex secured them from. The matter being brought before the king, he decided in favour of the ladies, without suffering the party who had made them prisoners being any losers, they receiving the ransom out of his own coffers.

Amongst the greatest of Francis's errors, was his taste for extravagance, which did not always agree with the situation of his affairs.

Among other instances, we find the interview between Ardres and Guiennes with Henry VIII. of England. The tent erected was sixty feet-square, with four wings, covered with cloth of gold. No King of France had ever before him carried the magnificence of building so far. The palace, which arose out of the forest of Fontainbleau, was the first edifice worthy of a king in Europe; all the other castles before this time, resembled either a prison or a fortress. His weakness for his favourites was still more reprehensible, which he acknowledged himself. Many of his misfortunes arose from the ascendancy admiral de Bonnivet had over him. Francis had a peculiar taste for poetry, and sometimes paid his court to the Muses. There is in the King of France's library a MS. containing his poetical works. One specimen will communicate to the reader an idea of his abilities in this way. It is an epitaph he wrote in going through Avignon upon the beautiful Laura, so celebrated in Petrarch.

* En petit lieu compris, vous pouvez voir
Ce qui comprend beaucoup par renommée.

** Considering the age in which this epitaph was written, it has singular merit; but there is a quaintness of expression rather obsolete, which makes it difficult to be rendered into English without destroying the spirit of the original. As we have never seen it in English, we have ventured at a literal translation with a view only of giving the unlearned reader some idea of its contents.*

"Comprised in a small place, you may behold that which comprehends much by renown Style, labour, speech, and learning, were vanquished by the lover of the beloved. O gentle spirit! being so much esteemed, who shall be able to praise thee but in silence? for language is always restrained, when the subject surmounts the power of expression."

Plume,

Plume, labeur, la langue et le
savoir

Forent vaincus par l'amant de
l'aimée

O gentille ame ! étant tant estimée,
Qui te pourra louer, qu'en se
taissant ?

Car la parole est toujours reprimée,
Quand le sujet surmonte le disant.

Francis died at Rambouillet, March 31, 1547, in the fifty-third year of his age, and the thirty-third year of his reign. His death was very edifying (says a French historian) displaying all the fortitude of Christianity, and the most admirable sentiments of religion.

To this account of Francis, we shall subjoin a very masterly portrait of him, drawn by Dr Robertson, in his History of the Reign of the Emperor Charles V. which, in our judgment, is inimitably penned.

"During twenty-eight years of the time he reigned," says the doctor, "an avowed rivalry subsisted between him and the emperor, which involved not only their own dominions, but the greater part of Europe in wars, prosecuted with more violent animosity, and drawn out to a greater length than had been known in any former period. Many circumstances contributed to both. Their animosity was founded in opposition of interest, heightened by personal emulation, and exasperated not only by mutual injuries, but by reciprocal insults. At the same time, whatever advantage one seemed to possess towards gaining the ascendant, was wondrously balanced by some favourable circumstance peculiar to the other. The emperor's domi-

nions were of great extent; the French king's lay more compact: Francis governed his kingdom with absolute power; that of Charles was limited, but he supplied the want of authority by address: the troops of the former were more impetuous and enterprising; those of the latter better disciplined, and more patient of fatigue. The talents of the two monarchs were as different as the advantages which they possessed, and contributed no less to prolong the contest between them. Francis took his resolutions suddenly, prosecuted them at first with warmth, and pushed them into execution with a most adventurous courage; but being destitute of the perseverance necessary to surmount difficulties, he often abandoned his designs, or relaxed the vigour of pursuit, from impatience, and sometimes from levity. Charles deliberated long, and determined with coolness; but having once fixed his plan, he adhered to it with inflexible obstinacy, and neither danger nor discouragement could turn him aside from the execution of it. The success of their enterprises was as different as their characters, and was uniformly influenced by them. Francis, by his impetuous activity, often disconcerted the emperor's best laid schemes. Charles, by a more calm, but steady prosecution of his designs, checked the rapidity of his rival's career, and baffled or repulsed his most vigorous efforts. The former at the opening of a war or a campaign, broke in upon his enemy with the violence of a torrent, and carried all before him; the latter, waiting until he saw the force of his rival begin to abate,

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abate, recovered in the end not only all that he had lost, but made new acquisitions. Few of the French monarch's attempts towards conquest, whatever promising aspect they might wear at first, were conducted to an happy issue; many of the emperor's enterprises, even after they appeared desperate and impracticable, terminated in the most prosperous manner. Francis was dazzled with the splendor of an undertaking; Charles was allured by the prospect of its turning to his advantage. The degree, however, of their comparative

merit and reputation, has not been fixed either by a strict scrutiny into their abilities for government, or by an impartial consideration of the greatness and success of their undertakings; and Francis is one of those monarchs who occupies a higher rank in the temple of fame, than either his talents or performances entitle him to hold. This pre eminence he owed to many different circumstances. The superiority which Charles acquired by the victory of Pavia *, and which from that period he preserved through the

* Francis's army was utterly defeated, and himself taken prisoner, at the famous battle of Pavia. Dr. Robertson's account of this transaction is extremely animating and interesting, but being too long to be quoted in this place, we must refer our readers to the history, where they will meet with every satisfaction on this head they can possibly wish for, or expect, and content ourselves with giving a short sketch of the emperor's behaviour on this occasion. Francis was no sooner taken prisoner, but he was extremely desirous that Charles should be informed of his situation, forming a judgment of the emperor's dispositions by his own, and fondly hoping that from his generosity or sympathy, he would obtain a speedy relief. Charles pretended to take no other pleasure in the advantage he had gained over Francis, only as it would prove the occasion of restoring peace to Christendom; though at the same time, he began to form schemes in his own mind, which little suited such external appearances. Ambition, not generosity, was the ruling passion of his mind; and the victory at Pavia opened such new and unbounded prospects of gratifying it, as allured him with irresistible force; but it being no easy matter to execute the vast designs which he meditated, he thought it necessary, while proper measures were taking for that purpose, to affect the greatest moderation, hoping, under that veil, to conceal his intentions from the other princes of Europe; mean while, France was filled with consternation. The king himself had early transmitted an account of the rout at Pavia in a letter to his mother, delivered by Pennafosa, which contained only these remarkable words, worthy of a king: "Madam, all is lost except our honour." After the most unfeeling and unprincipled treatment of his royal captive, Charles at length set him at liberty, having first made him sign a rigorous treaty. However, Francis considering this as a matter of force imposed upon him (by a dissingenuous artifice, for which even the treatment he had met with was no apology) endeavoured to satisfy his honour and conscience in signing the treaty, and to provide, at the same time, a pretext on which to break it. Nor was it long before a pretext was found, and these

remainder of his reign, was so manifest, that Francis's struggle against his exorbitant and growing dominion, was viewed by most of the other powers, not only with the partiality which naturally arises for those who gallantly maintain an unequal contest, but with the favour due to one who was resisting a common enemy, and endeavouring to set bounds to a monarch equally formidable to them all. The characters of princes too, especially among their cotemporaries, depend not only upon their talents for government, but upon their qualities as men. Francis, notwithstanding the many errors conspicuous in his foreign policy and domestic administration, was nevertheless humane, beneficent, generous. He possessed dignity without pride; affability, free from meanness, and courtesy exempt from deceit. All who had access to him, and no man of merit was ever denied that privilege, respected and loved him. Captivated with his personal qualities, his subjects forgot his defects as a monarch, and admired him as the most accomplished and amiable gentleman in his dominions; they never murmured at acts of mal-administration, which in a prince of less engaging dispositions would have been deemed unpardonable. This admiration, however, must have been temporary only, and would have died away with the courtiers who bestowed it; the

illusion arising from his private virtues must have ceased, and posterity would have judged of his public conduct with its usual impartiality; but another circumstance prevented this, and his name hath been transmitted to posterity with encreasing reputation. Science and the arts had at that time, made little progress in France: they were just beginning to advance beyond the limits of Italy, where they had revived, and which had hitherto been their only seat. Francis took them immediately under his protection, and vied with Leo himself in the zeal and munificence with which he encouraged them. He invited learned men to his court, he conversed with them familiarly, he employed them in business, he raised them to offices of dignity, and honoured them with his confidence. That race of men, not more prone to complain, when denied the respect to which they fancy themselves intitled, than apt to be pleased when treated with the distinction which they consider as their due, thought they could not exceed in gratitude to such a benefactor, and strained their invention, and employed all their ingenuity in panegyric. Succeeding authors, warmed with their descriptions of Francis's bounty, adopted their encomiums, and refined upon them. The appellation of Father of Letters bestowed upon Francis hath rendered his

two rival monarchs struggled against each other with alternate success, from this time, i. e. the year 1526 to the year 1547, when Francis, always jealous of the emperor's power, formed a great confederacy against him, which alarmed the emperor; but his fears at length were removed by the death of Francis.

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memory sacred among historians; and they seem to have regarded it as a sort of impiety to uncover his infirmities, or to point out his defects. Thus Francis, notwithstanding his inferior abilities and want of success, hath more than equalled the fame of Charles. The virtues which he possessed as a man, have entitled him to a greater admiration and praise, than have been bestowed upon the extensive genius and fortunate arts of a more capable, but less amiable rival."

*The CHARACTER of LEWIS XI.
King of France.*

THE whole life of Lewis XI. passed in wars and negotiations, in which he was sometimes deceived, and in which he often deceived others; in terrors and mistrusts; in variegated, and sometimes unhappy events. It has been said of him, that he was neither a good son, a good father, a good husband, a good friend, a good subject, or a good king; and these reproaches are justified by all his conduct. There was in his character an extravagant mixture of grandeur and weakness, piety and superstition, of resolution and diffidence, imprudence and policy; without any virtue that was not counterbalanced by some opposite vice.

He constantly confounded parts with cunning, preferring this to every other quality. Hence it was, that the spirit of tricking prevailed more in his court than any other: it might have been said, that the art of deceiving was the

only one that his courtiers studied to excel in.

The waywardness of his character was again displayed by a contempt of dress suitable to his rank: his affected negligence in this respect was ridiculous and indecent. If a prince should not be taken up with external appearances, neither should he affect to despise them. At the interview he had with Henry, King of Castille, at St. Jean de Luz, in 1463: *Our king, says Philip de Comines, was dressed in a very short coat, and so badly that nothing could be worse.* He was clad in a coarse cloth coat, that sat very tight, with a fustian surcoat. His head was covered with a little hat that had scarce any brim, in the form of a jockey-cap, ornamented with a leaden medal, that had the impression of the holy Virgin. Such is the portrait given of him by his cotemporary historians. The lords who accompanied him, in imitation of their sovereign, were not dressed more magnificently. On the other hand, the King of Castille, immersed in the effeminacy of the first years of his reign, and being the most imperious prince of his time, assisted at this ceremony in the most sumptuous dress. The courtiers of his train, imitating the magnificence of their master, the richest stuffs were set off with brilliant jewels; which formed an extraordinary and striking contrast. The Castilians ridiculed Lewis XI. and attributed this contempt of all decency to his avarice, and, as Comines says, to his *penuriousness*. Wherefore this interview produced nothing but the reciprocal contempt of two kings for each other.

This prince was cruel, and in this

this respect he was unworthy of bearing the august name, says a French historian; for he was the only King of France, some of the first race excepted, who can justly be reproached with this blemish. If severity be sometimes necessary, and indulgence should have limits, which a sovereign cannot exceed without weakening his authority, cruelty, or its resemblance, is always blameable. It displays a pleasure in punishing; a character odious in a prince. Brantome relates, that when Lewis XI. condemned James d'Armagnac, duke of Nemours, to lose his head, he ordered that his children, who were very young, should assist at the execution, dressed in white, with their heads naked, and with their hands folded. They were placed under the scaffold, and their cloaths were sprinkled with the blood of their unhappy father. Nature shudders at the recital! Such an order could be given by none but a man whose heart was iron, impervious to every sentiment of humanity.

What Seyssel and other writers call the *sudden justices of Lewis XI.* are horrible, and will ever dishonour his memory. We shall give one example of this kind, by which the world will be enabled to form a judgment of the rest. This prince was usually attended by Tristan the hermit, his grand provost, a barbarous minister, and blind to all his master's caprices. Being at dinner, he perceived by the side of a monk, who had the curiosity to see the king dine, a captain of Picardy, whom he detested. He gave a wink to the provost Tristan, who being accustomed to this kind of language, and

thinking that his master wanted to have the monk dispatched, had him seized upon his retiring by the *Satellites*, who tied him up in a sack, and threw him into the Seine; this was the method Tristan used to get rid of those the king chose to destroy. The officer who observed the sign given by Lewis, and knew his meaning, took horse and escaped with all possible speed. This the king was informed of, and asked Tristan the next day why he had not executed the orders he had given him by the sign? "Sire," replied Tristan, "our man has got a good way by this time." "A good way!" said the king, "he was seen yesterday at Amiens." "It is a mistake," replied Tristan boldly, "I'll warrant he is at Rouen and not at Amiens, if he has been swimming ever since." Who do you mean, resumed the king? "Why the monk," answered Tristan, "whom you pointed to yesterday; he was immediately tied up in a sack, and thrown into the river."—"How, the monk!" said Lewis, "Good God! what hast thou done? He was the worthiest monk in the whole kingdom. A dozen masses of requiem must be said for him to-morrow, which will clear our consciences. I wanted only to have the Picardy captain dispatched."

This barbarity was blended with the external practice of devotion, and he displayed, in this respect, much meanness of spirit. His pilgrimages and offerings were the constant topics of conversation.

His politics were not a model for any succeeding prince, as they consisted chiefly in the art of de-

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ceiving. To accommodate himself to the times, when he was the weakest, he made treaties to please his enemies; he yielded to them his rights and pretensions, in order to disunite them; and as soon he had broke their league, he repossessed himself of what he had yielded, without paying the least regard to his promise. It was one of his great maxims frequently to negotiate without designing to come to any conclusion, as well to discover the views of his enemies, as to gain time for the execution of his schemes. Though he was not very desirous of waging war, as soon as he had concluded a peace or a truce, he was immediately ready to break it. It cannot be denied, but that this conduct was useful to him upon several important occasions. He neither spared assiduity, money, or meanness to attain his ends. Although he was neither beneficent nor liberal, he spared no price to purchase creatures in the councils of neighbouring princes, or to gain venal ambassadors at his own court.

Notwithstanding Lewis had many evil qualities, he was also possessed of several good ones. He had proposed to himself upon mounting the throne, to become master of his own kingdom, and this he compassed by making the *grande*s return to their duty in opposing their usurpations and tyranny. He hereby greatly extended the royal authority, far beyond any of his predecessors. It was upon this occasion that Francis I. said, it was this prince who had made the Kings of France their own masters. He also proposed uniting all the laws and customs,

as well French as foreign, in order to form a fixed, uniform, and invariable code throughout the kingdom, thereby to abridge all law proceedings, and prevent the chicanes attending them; and that there might be but one law, one weight, and one measure.

With regard to valour, it is agreed by all historians, that never did a prince display greater than Lewis XI. at Montlheri. He also held courageous men in great esteem, and highly cared for them. He possessed knowledge, and esteemed the learned. The speech he made to the Parisians, two days after that battle, drew tears from every auditor, and supports the character given him by historians, for a lively natural eloquence. He died Aug. 30, 1483, aged sixty-one.

CHARACTER of WILLIAM III. of England.

THIS prince, who was one of the most valiant men, and most skilful politician that ever reigned in Europe, was born at the Hague on the 4th of November 1650. He was the son of William II. Prince of Orange, and Mary Stuart, daughter to the unfortunate Charles I. He was also grandson to Frederic Henry, prince of Orange, grand-nephew to Maurice, Count of Nassau, and great grandson to William I. Prince of Orange;—three heroes to whom the United Provinces are indebted for the foundation and stability of their republic. He was brought into the world ten days after the death of his father, who died of
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the small-pox in the twenty-fourth year of his age. William was instructed in the religion of his fathers. He was but six years old when he became anxious of quitting the tuition of women, to be under that of his own sex; and he soon displayed a genius and ambition, that bespoke he would follow the career of his predecessors. He spoke but little, and with so much circumspection, that every one admired in a child of that age, two qualities so necessary in great designs. It is related of him, that whilst he was receiving a lesson upon history and geography, when his preceptor pointed out to him the principal islands, and coming to Great Britain, which was described to him as a little world of itself, the young prince uttered with a sigh, "Would I were one day master of such a little world as that!" Nor did this idea ever escape him. In 1677, he came over to England upon the invitation of Charles II. his uncle, where he wedded princess Mary, daughter of the duke of York.

Whilst James II. was exerting all his power to re-establish the Romish religion in England, the clergy and laymen of the Protestant church formed a league, and resolved to save their religion and the state; to effect which design, nothing appeared to them more plausible than inviting the prince of Orange to be their leader, he being interested in the event, as he might reasonably expect to be presumptive heir to the crown; and on the other hand, if James had compassed his design, Holland would have been in imminent danger, by reason of the close alliance

between the Kings of England and France. Thus it being resolved to invite the prince of Orange to come over, several lords repaired to the Hague to confer with him; when they set forth, that the nation required a deliverer to restore them their religion and laws; that he was immediately pointed out to them by the law of nations, as an heir was entitled to prevent the dissipation of an estate to which he was to succeed; and that the majority of the people, and particularly the troops, held the Romish religion in utter detestation. These lords addressed themselves, at the same time, to the States-General, to require succours in the name of the English nation. The States-General, who were not unacquainted with the designs the prince of Orange had formed upon the throne of Great Britain, listened to these proposals, rather choosing to assist a prince, whose ambition might overturn the form of their government, to become the sovereign of a foreign nation, than of their own; and to this, we may ascribe the favourable answer of the States-General.

When every thing was ready for the projected expedition, the prince of Orange having taken leave of the States, set sail. He was at this time thirty-eight years of age. His fleet consisted of near 500 vessels, and the army he proposed landing, of between 12 and 13,000 men. A storm arose whilst he was at sea; but he, nevertheless, reached England by the 5th of November, and landed his troops without any opposition.

At length, when James found it was not safe for him to remain in England, at a time he was deserted

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by his own subjects, he obtained leave of the Prince of Orange to go where he pleased, when he resolved upon retiring to France. As soon as James's departure was known, the Prince of Orange repaired to London, and took up his residence at St. James's, where he received the compliments of the nobility. There was for some time an *inter regnum*, during which a petition was presented from the peers to the prince, to intreat him to take upon him the civil and military government, till such time as the parliament could meet. In this assembly the commons resolved, that King James having endeavoured to overturn the constitution of the kingdom, having violated the fundamental laws of the state, and having withdrawn himself, had abdicated the government. After some altercation, both houses agreed and declared the throne vacant. Then they entered into debate upon the choice of a king. Some proposed tendering the crown to the Prince of Orange, with the two princesses, his wife and sister-in-law, for successors; others were for placing the Princess Mary alone upon the throne, with the power of sharing as much of the regal authority as she thought proper with the prince.

During these debates William remained concealed at St. James's, where it was with difficulty any one could have access to him, gaining all the intelligence he could, and speaking very little: naturally serious and reserved, he disdained cramping his disposition by an affable, popular behaviour, which might have removed all dispute. He very gravely said he

was come to deliver the nation at their own request; that as they were free at present, they might pursue their own interest; that he no longer was charged with it; and that he only waited for the issue of those deliberations, to return with pleasure to Holland. People of penetration saw through this affected indifference, which they thought concealed a tacit menace of leaving every thing in confusion, if he were not appointed sole arbiter.

He afterwards expressed himself more clearly, and it cannot be denied his sentiments were worthy of a prince. He said he had his reasons for not chusing to be regent of England; that it was beneath a man of his character to reign, unless it was for himself, and during his life-time; that the splendor of a crown had never yet dazzled him; and that he could live contented and happy without it. The parliament being met they framed a convention, by virtue whereof the crown was offered to William, and Mary Stuart his wife.

This prince in receiving the sceptre, reserved to himself the power of passing the sea, when necessity should call him to the assistance of Holland.

The first step the new king took, was the choice of his ministers, such as were at the same time zealously attached to him, and also agreeable to the nation: in this he perfectly succeeded; and the wisdom he displayed in this choice was by all admired. Nevertheless, born with a haughty spirit, and fearing to be thought governed either by his ministers or his favourites, he affected to make

but light of their counsels, and would not be contradicted in his opinion. Neither could he bear flattery, or that kind of pleasing dissimulation generally so grateful to the taste of princes. In war seemed to centre all his passions, or rather this one predominated over all the rest; and that exercise which is considered as its image, was his sole amusement, affording him at the same time pleasure and relief to his bodily infirmities, particularly an asthma.

At the head of his armies he displayed more courage than conduct. Almost all his military projects had the ill fortune to prove abortive, during the time he commanded the allied army against France; whence it was said that he was an excellent league-partizan, rather than a complete general. Perhaps he would have been more successful if the army under his command had not been composed of various nations, who were not so completely submissive as the troops of England or Holland would have been. Born for war, and being solely possessed with the greatness and utility of his views, he was remiss in his behaviour—a necessary attention to conciliate a free people. He was often actuated by caprice upon important occasions; and the first disadvantageous impression he conceived of any person was never effaced. As to religion, he had no attachment to any peculiar doctrine; he considered them all as subordinate to the reasons of state. His soul was a stranger to all passions, but the thirst of power and glory. The reputation and esteem of brave men was so much an object of his attention, that his last breath eva-

porated with warlike commands, seeming emulous of extending his empire even beyond the grave.

William's talents for business constituted his greatest merit, Count d'Estrades said of him, when he was only prince of Orange, that William I. Maurice, and Frederic Henry, were all three regenerated in his person. He was small of stature, with a fair skin, delicate features, an aquiline nose, lively expressive eyes, and a serious imposing air. He seldom appeared gay, and with very few people; but this serious, reserved humour vanished in the day of battle; he was then all fire, activity, vigilance, and affability. He united to a solid judgment, a prodigious memory, and spoke English, German, Dutch, and French, perfectly well; and thoroughly understood Latin and Spanish.

His naturally grave, melancholy disposition, urged him to seek for solitude and retirement; hence arose his great fondness for hunting, as it estranged him from the multitude. His ministers in vain represented to him, that the English were fond of seeing their princes free and affable: in answer to this he pleaded his health, and fixed upon Hampton court for his residence, which by his magnificence he made worthy of a king, so that his court became melancholy and deserted. In a word, he neglected too much the means of making himself beloved; but it should be observed, that the most displeasing part of his conduct, was in a great measure the effect of his natural melancholy, and of that reserve with which he had been compelled to live during his youth. His enemies, indeed, condemn him the

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the most for the part he acted towards his father-in-law, saying, that he had adopted the maxim of Julius Cæsar, that justice might be violated, when this violation conferred a scepter.

Towards the close of his life, the victories of Charles XII. over the Poles, and the advantages gained by Prince Eugene in Italy, made him say with a feeble smile, "It is a fine thing to be young." The approach of death did not, however, make him in any respect relax from his usual application; but a fall from his horse terminated his career the 19th of March, 1702, at the age of fifty-two, after reigning fourteen years.

An Account of the Life and Writings of the late Reverend Mr. STERNE.*

MR. Sterne was the son of an Irish officer, and born in the barracks at Dublin: but he was not without relations in the church, as his great grandfather was an archbishop, and his uncle the prebendary of a cathedral. He was brought up at the university of Cambridge, where the vivacity of his disposition very early in life distinguished him.

For some time he lived in a retired manner upon a small curacy in Yorkshire, and probably would have remained in the same obscurity, if his lively genius had not displayed itself upon an occasion which secured him a friend, and

paved the way for his promotion. A person who filled a lucrative benefice, was not satisfied with enjoying it during his own life-time, but exerted all his interest to have it entailed upon his wife and son after his decease. The gentleman that expected the reversion of this post was Mr. Sterne's friend, who had not, however, sufficient influence to prevent the success of his adversary. At this critical time Sterne's satirical pen operated so strongly, that the intended monopolizer informed him, if he would suppress the publication of his sarcasm, he would resign his pretensions to the next candidate. The title of this piece, it appears, was to have been, "The history of a good warm watch-coat, with which the present possessor is not content to cover his own shoulders, unless he can cut out of it a petticoat for his wife, and a pair of breeches for his son." The pamphlet was suppressed, and the reversion took place †.

Mr. Sterne was about this period in the coffee-house at York, when a stranger came in, who gave much offence to the company, consisting chiefly of gentlemen of the gown, by descanting too freely upon religion and the hypocrisy of the clergy. The young fellow at length addressed himself to Mr. Sterne, asking him what were his sentiments upon the subject; when, instead of answering him directly, he told the witling that "his dog was reckoned one of the most beautiful pointers in the whole county, was very good-natured, but that

* From the Continuation of *Yorick's Sentimental Journey*, just published.

† This pamphlet, however, has been lately published.

he had an infernal trick which destroyed all his good qualities. He never sees a clergyman (continued Sterne) but he immediately flies at him." "How long may he have had that trick?"—"Sir, ever since he was a puppy." The young man felt the keenness of the satire, turned upon his heel, and left Sterne to triumph.

His wit and humour were already greatly admired within the circle of his acquaintance; but his genius had never yet reached the capital, when his first two volumes of *Tristram Shandy* made their appearance. They were printed at York, and proposed to the booksellers there at a very moderate price; those gentlemen, however, were such judges of their value, that they scarce offered the price of paper and print; and the work made its way into the world without any of the artifices which are often practised to put off an edition. A large impression being almost instantaneously sold, the booksellers were roused from their lethargy, and every one was eager to purchase the second edition of the copy. Mr. Sterne sold it for six hundred pounds, after being refused fifty pounds for the first impression and proprietorship.

The two first volumes of *Tristram Shandy* were now in every body's hands. All read, most approved, but few understood them. Those who had not entered into the ludicrous manner of Rabelais, or the poignant satire of Swift, did not comprehend them; but they joined with the multitude, and pronounced *Tristram Shandy*—d—d clever. A few who pretended to judge for themselves, were staggered at the asterisks, and disap-

pointed with the digressions; and even the Reviewers themselves were surprised into an elogium upon our author, though they afterwards recanted. They recommended Mr. Shandy as a writer infinitely more ingenious and entertaining than any other of the present race of novelists; adding, his characters were striking and singular, his observations shrewd and pertinent, and, making a few exceptions, that his humour was easy and genuine.

The publication of these two volumes brought Mr. Sterne into great repute. He was considered as the genius of the age: his company was equally courted by the great, the literati, the witty, and the gay; and it was considered as a kind of honour to have passed an evening with the author of *Tristram Shandy*. The acquaintance he now made, added to his former connections, procured him a prebendaryship in York cathedral.

His next publication consisted of two volumes of sermons which the severest critics could not help applauding for the purity and elegance of their style, and the excellence of their moral: but at the same time, the manner in which they were ushered to the public notice, was severely, and perhaps justly condemned. Having in his preface acquainted the reader, that "the sermon which gave rise to the publication of these, having been offered to the public as a sermon of Yorick's, he hoped the serious reader would find nothing to offend him, in his continuing those two volumes under the same title;" this very apology was considered as an additional insult to religion; and it

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was asked, "Would any man believe that a preacher was in earnest, who should mount the pulpit in a Harlequin's coat?"

When the third and fourth volumes of *Tristram Shandy* made their appearance, it must be acknowledged that the public was not so eager in purchasing and applauding them, as they had been with respect to the first two volumes. The novelty of the style and manner no longer remained; his digressions began to be tedious, and the meaning of his asterisks, which by this time had been pretty clearly pointed out, were by many considered as too gross and indelicate for the eye of chastity. He had nevertheless a great number of admirers; and he was encouraged to publish a fifth and sixth volume. Their satire was still poignant, spirited, and most frequently extremely just. The characters, though somewhat *outré*, were lively and in nature. He constantly caught the ridiculous, wherever he found it; and he never failed to present it to his readers in the most agreeable point of light. His story of *Le Fevre* was highly finished, and truly pathetic; and would alone rescue his name from oblivion, if his sermons were not considered as some of the best moral discourses extant.

The seventh, eighth, and ninth volumes have not yet completed that work; so that what was said upon the publication of his first volumes, has been verified: "Mr. Shandy seems so extremely fond of digressions, and of giving his his-

torical readers the slip upon allocations, that we are not a little apprehensive he may, sometime or other, give them the slip in good earnest, and leave the work before the story be finished."

In the above-mentioned volumes, Mr. Sterne carries his readers through France, and introduces some scenes and characters which are afterwards taken up in his sentimental Journey, particularly that of Maria: so that this may in some measure be considered as a continuation of the *Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy*.

A very good judge of literature hath given his opinion of the *Sentimental Journey* in these words: "His last work may be considered as his greatest; since it contains a variety of agreeable pathetic descriptions, in an easy simple style, cleared from much of the obscenity and levity which debase the former volumes."

CHARACTERS of the English Monarchs from the Conquest to the Revolution *

WILLIAM duke of Normandy, gained a complete victory over Harold at the battle of Hastings, in which above thirty thousand men were slain. On the spot where this decisive battle was fought, he erected an abbey of Benedictines, the remains of which formerly belonged to the lord viscount Montacute, of Cowdray, near Midhurst in Sussex. Upon

* From *Granger's Biographical History*, lately published.

his accession to the throne, he endeavoured to reconcile himself to a people who could by no means be reconciled to him, by the gentle methods of lenity and indulgence. But finding the nation extremely averse from a foreign yoke, however easy, he ruled with all the rigour and jealousy of a conqueror.

—Ob. 9. Sept. 1087. The survey taken in this reign of all the lands in England, called Doom-day book, is the most ancient record in the kingdom, and is of singular use in regulating assessments, ascertaining limits, &c.

William Rufus, who found the kingdom totally subdued to his hands, ruled with more lenity than his father; but he was in his nature disposed to be equally violent and tyrannical: and his avarice, which seems to have been his predominant passion, prompted him to be more rapacious. He built the city of Carlisle, the Tower of London, Westminster-hall, and London-bridge.

Henry I. youngest son of William the Conqueror, gained the crown by usurpation, and defended it with vigour and dexterity. His engaging person and address, his courage, learning, and eloquence, have been much celebrated. The greatest blemish of his reign was, his putting out the eyes of his elder brother, and confining him twenty-eight years in Cardiff-castle in Glamorgan-shire. In 1110, he began to restore learning in the university of Cambridge. The first great council of the nation, by some called a parliament, was assembled in this reign.

Stephen, earl of Boloign and Montaign, upon the death of

Henry I. seized the crown, which had been settled on the empress Matilda, the sole descendant of that monarch, who came into England to assert her right. Hostilities presently commenced in every quarter of the kingdom, and were carried on with the highest animosity, and with various success to near the end of this reign. During this period a spirit of independence prevailed among the barons, who, taking advantage of the weakness of the government, built a great number of castles and fortresses, which were demolished by Henry II.

Henry II. the first king of the house of Anjou, or Plantagenet, was endowed with qualities which raised his character above any of his predecessors. He with a noble spirit, asserted the independency of his kingdom, in opposition to papal usurpation, annexed Ireland to the English crown, and obliged the king of Scotland to do him homage. His courage and conduct as a soldier, his wisdom as a legislator, and his impartiality as a dispenser of justice, were, like the rest of his accomplishments of body and mind, far above the level of the princes of his age.

Richard I. The saint errantry of Richard, who sacrificed all other views to the glory of the Crusade, was productive of much misery to himself and his subjects; and is an instance among a thousand others, that offensive and enterprizing valour may be a worse quality than cowardice itself. He was but eight months in his kingdom, during a reign of ten years.

John. This weak and infamous prince, tamely suffered his foreign dominions to be ravished from him

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by the King of France, and even surrendered his crown to the pope's legate. Over awed by a confederacy of his barons, he signed and sealed the famous deed called Magna Charta, in Rune-mead, betwixt Windsor and Staines. His whole administration was without vigour, and yet arbitrary and tyrannical: which rendered him, at the same time, the object of hatred and contempt. The story of his being poisoned at Swinshead-abbey, in Lincolnshire, rests on no good foundation.

Henry III. Though a better man, can scarcely be said to have been a better politician than his father. He wanted that dignity and firmness of character which is necessary to procure respect and maintain authority. His haughty barons, at the head of whom was the Earl of Leicester, taking advantage of the errors of his government, and the imbecility of his nature made large advances towards independency; and for a time deprived him of his throne. The civil broils of this reign, however calamitous, were productive of a spirit of liberty, which diffused itself through the whole body of the people. The first approach towards the present method of assembling parliaments was at this period, which was the æra of the arts in England. A great part of the present structure of Westminster-abbey was built by this king. Eleanor, queen of Henry III. was second daughter to Raymond, earl of Provence. The marriage and coronation of this princess were celebrated with such pomp and festivity as had never been seen in England before on the like occasion. The most memorable

circumstances in her life, is her raising a very powerful army in France to rescue the king her husband, who was detained in custody by the earl of Leicester. This formidable army, which threatened the liberty of the kingdom, was prevented from landing by contrary winds.

Edward I. completed the conquest of Wales, and ordered all their bards to be put to death. He afterwards conquered Scotland, received a formal resignation of the crown from the hands of John Baliol, and brought from thence the stone which was regarded as the palladium of that kingdom. His character as a legislator was such, that it gained him the appellation of the English Justinian. His ambition ever prompted him to great designs, which his personal courage, and vigour of mind, enabled him to execute.

Edward II. This may be called the reign of favourites, of an imperious and intriguing queen, and a factious nobility, rather than of the pageant who sat on the throne; whose weakness and misconduct soon precipitated the kingdom into all those disorders which are the natural effects of an unsettled constitution under a feeble administration. During this confusion, the royal favourites, Gaveston and the two Spencers, were sacrificed to the jealous rage of the rebellious barons. And in conclusion, the wretched king was dethroned, and fell a victim to the criminal passion of Isabella his Queen and Mortimer her gallant.

Edward III. raised his own and the national character to a greater height than any of our English monarchs had done before, or

after him. His valour, conduct, and fortune, are equally the objects of our admiration: but he acquired more solid glory by his domestic government, than by all the splendor of his victories. His ambition seems to have been rather to humble than to crush his enemies; and was satisfied with the arms and title of the king of France, and a small part of his territories; when it was in his power to have made himself master of that kingdom.

He gained the victory at Cressy, Aug. 26, 1346; and instituted the order of the Garter, April 23, 1349. Wool began to be manufactured here by the Flemings in this reign; and gold was said to be first coined. The largest silver coins were groats and half groats.

Richard II. a prince of mean genius, was neither loved nor revered by his people. The contempt for his person naturally extended itself to his government, and subjected him to the tyranny of his nobility. His impatience of this subjection impelled him to several acts of violence, from which his nature seems to have been averse. His uncle, the duke of Gloucester, was assassinated by his orders; and he unjustly detained the estate of Henry duke of Lancaster, by whose procurement he was dethroned, and murdered. The authors who lived nearest to his own time, inform us, that he was starved to death.

Henry IV. was the son of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, got the crown by usurpation, and held it by the sword; a tenure which gave him perpetual disquietude, and afterwards opened such a scene

of blood and cruelty as is hardly to be paralleled in any history; and it was not closed, till the two houses of York and Lancaster were united in the person of Henry VII. The act for burning heretics was passed in his reign, and one of the Lollards burnt.

Henry V. The glory which Henry acquired by his victory in the plains of Agincourt, was equal to that which Edward III. and his son gained in the fields of Cressy and Poitiers; as his situation, valour, conduct, and fortune, were much the same. He afterwards entered into a treaty with the king of France, married Catherine de Valois, his only daughter, and was declared regent and heir apparent of that kingdom.

Henry VI. A monk's cowl would have fitted this prince's head much better than a crown. He was a king only in name; and may be said to have reigned under his queen a woman of martial spirit. He lost his father's acquisitions in France; a great part of which, to the reproach of the English, was retaken by an army headed by a woman, sprung from the dregs of the people. In the civil war between the Yorkists and Lancastrians, in this reign, the greatest part of the nobility fell in the field, or by the hand of the executioner; and the throne itself was, at length, overturned by the prevailing faction. The king is said to have been murdered by Richard duke of Gloucester.

Edward IV. of the house of York, opened his way to the crown with the sword. There is a great contrast in the character of this prince, who, in the former part of his reign, was as remarkable for

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for his activity and enterprize, as he was in the latter for his indolence, his love of pleasure, and dissipation. His heart was hardened against every movement of compassion, but extremely susceptible of the passion of love. His unrelenting cruelties towards the Lanc. strikers, was scarcely exceeded by that of Sylla, the dictator, towards the Marian faction.

Richard III. if we may depend upon the generality of our historians, seems to have been influenced by that capital maxim of pernicious policy, *not to be wicked by halves*; as he is said to have been restrained by no principle of justice, or humanity, in obtaining the crown, and to have endeavoured to maintain it by fraud and violence. George Buck, who affirms, that he was neither deformed in mind, nor body, was thought to have discovered as much confidence, and as little truth in that assertion, as Richard himself did in asserting his title. He had undoubtedly talents for government, and affected popularity; which occasioned the saying concerning him, *That he was a bad man, but a good king.*

Anne, Queen of Richard III. was widow of Edward son of Henry VI. who was killed at Tewksbury by Richard, to whom she was soon after married. Such a marriage as this, unnatural as it may seem, is not much to be wondered at in a barbarous age, when massacres and murders were so familiar as to have lost their usual horror. Richard's treatment of her, is said to have been such as a woman may be supposed to have merited, who married the murderer of her husband. It is also

recorded, that the treatment was so intolerable, as to have quickly hastened her death. The admirable scene in Shakespeare, betwixt Richard and Anne, is, or ought to be, well known to every one of our readers.

Mr. Walpole, who is well known to have struck new light into some of the darkest passages of English history, has brought various presumptive proofs unknown to Buck, that Richard was neither that deformed person, nor that monster of cruelty and impiety, which he has been represented by our historians. But it must be acknowledged, that though this gentleman has done much towards clearing up the character of Richard, that he has left the matter still problematical. His arguments to prove that Perkin Warbeck was the real duke of York, appear more conclusive. I am assured, by a good hand, that the lord treasurer Oxford, who read as much of our history, and with as much judgment, as any man of his time, was entirely of that opinion.

Henry VII. of the race of Tudor, or Theodore, not only put an end to the civil wars betwixt the two contending houses of York and Lancaster, but, by humbling the powerful and haughty barons, opened the way to peace and liberty.

As all his passions, especially in the latter part of his life, centered in avarice, he was too selfish to study the interest, or gain the esteem of his people. The good that he did, appears to have been done for his own sake.

Elizabeth of York, the amiable queen of Henry VII. by whose marriage

marriage the two houses of York and Lancaster were united, was a pattern of conjugal duty and obsequiousness; but met with very cold returns of affection from the king, whose malignity to the house of York, and jealousy of its title to the crown, extended itself even to his queen.—Ob. 11. Feb. 1563.

Henry VIII. This despotic monarch held the nation in greater subjection than any of its conquerors; and did more by his will than any of his predecessors could have done with the sword. He was, in his own estimation, the wisest prince in Europe: but was the known dupe of as many of the European princes as paid their court to him under that character. He was more governed by vanity and caprice than principle, and paid no regard to mercy, nor even to justice, when it stood in the way of his passions. He persecuted both protestants and papists; and gained the character of a generous and munificent prince, by dividing the spoils of the church, to which he had no right. His whole administration, after he was possessed of the spoils, is a flagrant proof of the impotence of law, when opposed to the violence of arbitrary power. But though a tyrant, he, by depressing the nobility, and increasing the property of the commons, had a considerable hand in laying the foundations of civil liberty: and though a bigot to almost every error of the church of Rome, he was the father of the Reformation.

Edward VI. The great virtue and capacity of this young prince, like those of several other princes who have died young, prognosticated a very happy reign. The

English historians are thought to speak in a high strain of panegyric of his learning, and other accomplishments; but Cardan the celebrated Italian philosopher, who conversed with him, has given him such a character, as renders almost every thing that is said of him highly credible. See *The life of Cardan*, written by himself, or see the same account in Fox's *Martyrology*.

Mary. The melancholy complexion of this princess, her narrow capacity, obstinate and unrelenting temper, and blind attachment to her religion, contributed to carry her to the extremes of bigotry and persecution. No less than 284 persons were burnt for heresy in this short reign. These horrid cruelties facilitated the progress of the Reformation in the next.

Queen Elizabeth having reformed religion, established peace; reduced the coin to its just value; delivered Scotland from the French; revenged domestic rebellion; saved France from headlong ruin by civil war: supported Belgia; overthrown the Spanish invincible navy; called the Spaniards out of Ireland; received the Irish into mercy; enriched England by the most prudent government, forty-five years; Elizabeth, a virtuous and triumphant queen, in the 70th year of her age, in a most happy and peaceable manner, departed this life; leaving here her mortal parts, until by the last trump she shall rise immortal.

Elizabeth, who was raised from a prison to a throne, filled it with a sufficiency that does honour to her sex; and with a dignity, essential and peculiar to her character:

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ter; though her passions were warm, her judgment was temperate and cool: hence it was, that she was never led or over-ruled by her ministers or favourites, though men of great abilities and address. She practised all the arts of dissimulation for the salutary purposes of government. She so happily tempered affability and haughtiness, benevolence and severity, that she was much more beloved than feared by the people; and was, at the same time, the delight of her own subjects, and the terror of Europe. She was parsimonious, and even ~~various~~ ^{avaricious}: but these qualities were in her rather virtues than vices; as they were the result of a rigid œconomy that centered in the public. Her treatment of the queen of Scots, the most censurable part of her conduct, had in it more of policy than justice, and more of spleen than policy. This wise princess, who had never been the slave of her passions at the time of life when they are found to be most powerful, fell a victim to their violence at an age when they are commonly extinguished.

James I. The love of peace seems to have been the ruling passion in James I. to which he sacrificed almost every principle of sound policy. He was eminently learned, especially in divinity; and was better qualified to fill a professor's chair than a throne. His speculative notions of regal power were as absolute as those of an eastern monarch; but he wanted that vigour and firmness of mind which was necessary to reduce them to practice. His consciousness of his own weakness in the exertion of his prerogative, drew

from him this concession: That though a king in abstracto, had all power, a king in concreto was bound to observe the laws of the country which he governed. But if all restraints on his prerogative had been taken off, and he could have been, in reality, that abstracted king which he had formed in his imagination, he possessed too much good nature to have been a tyrant.

Charles I. This unhappy prince carried the regal power to an enormous height, at a conjuncture very unfavourable to despotism: the republican part of the constitution, in its turn, made as large encroachments upon monarchy. Hence a violent struggle betwixt liberty and prerogative, occasioned one of the most calamitous wars in the history of mankind. If we consider Charles as a monarch, we must, in some instances, give him up to censure; if as an accomplished person, we admire him; if as a master, a father, and a husband, we esteem and love him; if as a man who bore his misfortunes with magnanimity, we pity and respect him. He would have made a much better figure in private life, than he did upon a throne. Beheaded 30th January, 1648-9.

Oliver Cromwell, This great man, whose genius was awakened by the distractions of his country, was looked upon as one of the people till he was upwards of forty years of age. He is an amazing instance of what ambition, heated by enthusiasm, restrained by judgment, disguised by hypocrisy, and aided by natural vigour of mind, can do. He was never oppressed with the weight, or perplexed with
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the intricacy of affairs: but his deep penetration, indefatigable activity, and invincible resolution, seemed to render him a master of all events. He persuaded without eloquence, and exacted obedience more from the terror of his name, than the rigour of his administration. He appeared as a powerful instrument in the hand of Providence, and dared to appeal to the decisions of Heaven for the justice of his cause. He knew every man of abilities in the three kingdoms, and endeavoured to avail himself of their respective talents. He has always been regarded by foreigners, and, of late years, by the generality of his countrymen, as the greatest man this nation ever produced. It has been disputed which he deserved most, a halter or a crown; and there is no less disparity betwixt the characters drawn of him, and the reports propagated by his enemies and his friends. Colonel Lindsey affirmed, that he saw him enter into a formal contract with the devil: and Dawberry has drawn a parallel betwixt Moses the man of God and Oliver the protector. He died in his bed on the 3d of September, a day which he had long esteemed fortunate, in the year 1658. The French court went into mourning for him; but the famous Mademoiselle de Montpensier disdained to pay that respect to the memory of an usurper.

Charles II. though a genius, acted in direct opposition to every principle of sound policy; and even without any propensity to tyranny, made no scruple of embracing such measures as were destructive to the civil and religious liberties of his people. He chose

rather to be a pensioner to France, than the arbiter of Europe; and to sacrifice the independency of his kingdom, and the happiness of his subjects, than to remit his attachment to indolence and pleasure. He was gay, affable, and polite, and knew how to win the hearts, when he could no longer gain the esteem of mankind. He was so accustomed, for his own ease, to divest himself of his grandeur, that he seemed to have forgot what belonged to his dignity as a King.

James II. The history of this reign consists of little more than the weak and irregular efforts of a bigotted and tyrannical prince to introduce popery; an attempt so big with absurdity, that it did not meet with the least encouragement from the pope himself. The capacity of James was by no means equal to the subversion of those deep and solid foundations which supported the civil and religious liberties of his people. The share which he had in his father's sufferings had not sufficiently taught him, that jealousy of the royal prerogative is a fundamental principle in the English constitution. He was so violent and precipitate in his conduct, that he never failed to counteract his own purposes, every step he took to advance his power, helping greatly to destroy it; and he established the protestant religion on a firmer basis than ever, by his own wild attempts to introduce that of the church of Rome. Though he ascended the throne with almost every advantage, he could never sit easy in it; and having taught even the advocates of Non-resistance to resist, he was forced to relinquish

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linquish a crown which he was absolutely unfit to wear. He fled into France, where the palace of St. Germain was assigned him; but the convent of La Trappe would have been a much more suitable retreat. He died 6th Sept. 1701. His body was deposited in the monastery of the Benedictines, at Paris, his brain in the church of St. Andrew in that city, and his heart in the nunnery of Chuillet. It is well known that he supplied father Orleans with materials to write his history.

CHARACTER of HENRY IV. *King of France.*

THIS prince was really deserving of the title of *Great* which was given him. To be convinced of this, it is only necessary to consider the astonishing difficulties which he surmounted before he was settled upon his throne, and the flourishing state his kingdom acquired under his auspices, after finding it in the most horrid desolation. If his passion for women had allowed him to display all his great qualities, he would have equalled, if not surpassed, the most celebrated heroes of antiquity.

Henry IV. was born at Peau in Bearn, December 13, 1553. He was the son of Anthony of Bourbon, king of Navarre, and of Jane d'Albret. He was of a middling stature, active and alert, his body being formed with great symmetry, and his constitution robust, for he was early inured to hardships and fatigue: he had a large forehead, a quick and piercing

eye, an aquiline nose, fresh colour, and a smiling countenance: he had nevertheless a warlike, martial air: he wore a large beard, and short hair, which began to be grey before he was thirty, which made him say, "This is the blight of the wind of my adversity." And, in fact, if we consider this prince from his birth, few have suffered so much as he did; and it would be difficult to determine whether his prosperities or adversities were the greatest. He used to say, "He had seen himself a king without a kingdom, a husband without a wife, waging war without money; but that God had been since so gracious to him, that in viewing his arsenal it would be found there were sufficient arms for 50,000 men, with all the necessary ammunition; and in his Bastille, money enough to pay them for three years."

It is worthy observation, that no prince ever united so many fine estates to their domains; having joined that part of the kingdom of Navarre which remained in his possession, the sovereignty of Bearn, the duchies of Alençon, Vendôme, Albret, the countries of Foy, Armagnac, Bigorre, Perigord, La Ferre, Soissons, Limoges, and many others. As to his military virtue, it would be difficult to find many princes who have given so many proofs of heroism as Henry. It was said of the emperor Henry IV. that he had been present at sixty-two great battles; but Henry IV. King of France, signalized his courage in four or five pitched battles, in upwards of a hundred others, and in two hundred sieges. From the age of fifteen, when he commenced soldier,

dier, he continued bearing arms till forty-five. Upon every occasion he risked his person, with the most valiant amongst his captains; which arose neither from temerity, or a thirst of glory, but absolute necessity—He was compelled to set an example to his soldiers. The fortune of France, and his own personal fate, were reduced to such a crisis, that he was obliged either to conquer or die. He went to battle with a martial courage, and the greatest resolution; neither did he fear death in any shape he could appear. After a victory he testified his joy no more than before a battle, "Because," as he said, "he could not rejoice in seeing Frenchmen, who were his subjects, lying dead upon the field; and that the advantage he had gained was attended with such a loss." He had a great insight into the designs of his enemies; and he frequently gave orders that saved his whole army, because he foresaw what they proposed doing.

His activity was equal to his great judgment; he was every where present, and in all enterprises, but never engaged in any till he saw all the necessary measures were taken to succeed. He had found the art of being beloved by his soldiers, from his frankness, his easy access, and even the familiarity which subsisted between them. Henry the Great was frequently seen in the guard-room taking some short repose upon an old couch, that would shock modern effeminacy, eating a piece of brown bread or drawing with a piece of charcoal, an entrenchment, or an encampment: at other times working with a pick-

axe, exciting the soldiers to glory, and consoling them upon the miseries of war.

He lived with his courtiers in such a manner as to attract their sincerest affection; whilst, at the same time, he would not allow them to quit the bounds of that respect which was due to him. His goodness, though very great, was neither dastardly, nor incompatible with decency. The most intimate of his confidants and ministers trembled when he knit his brow; and every air of familiarity ceased, when he spoke as a master.

No prince was ever more punctual in paying his debts; nor any one a more religious observer of his promise. He used to say, "that a good king should not do all that was in his power."

He was naturally emulous of glory and reputation, as all great souls are; and he was sensibly affected with the good or ill that was spoken of him; but would suffer no panegyrics that had not truth for their basis. He was at the same time a religious prince, as may be found by his sentiments on the greatness of God, and his infinite goodness: he said, "He trembled with fear, and became less than an atom in the presence of that Majesty who had drawn forth every thing from nothing, and who could reduce it to the same state, in withdrawing the assistance of his omnipotent hand."

He had a great esteem for men of letters. Cardinal Du Perron, Sponde, Scaliger, Casaubon, and several others, have testified his regard for learning: nor was he ignorant of the most essential knowledge for a king. He was acquainted with Latin; he was very con-

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versant in general history, and particularly that of the Bible. Henry had studied politics in the court of the Valois, and the great art of war under the prince de Conde, his uncle, and under the admiral de Coligni, two celebrated warriors. He was facetious in his disposition, and fond of *bon mots* and raillery; which were so familiar to him, that whole books have been compiled of his witty sayings.

Henry, like most great men, was not happy in his domestic life. His two wives, whom he successively wedded, occasioned him infinite chagrin; but, perhaps, its real source might be traced to his own infidelity, which was almost boundless. These bickerings, however, retarded the execution of the plans he had framed for the benefit and repose of Christendom.

If the personal valour and distinguished courage of this prince had not been displayed upon various occasions, his extreme tenderness for the partisans of the league might have been considered as the effect of weakness and timidity? but as he could not be accused of cowardice, this conduct was, with reason, ascribed to the greatness of his soul. It is certain that it was founded on sound policy, and that there was no other method of converting his enemies.

His generosity was so extensive, as to estrange from his conduct any of those artifices, which are too frequently found in the rulers of the people: on the contrary, he was a strict observer of those things which tend to preserve the reputation of princes; and in this

respect he would rather yield some of his rights, than give the least reason to reproach his good faith; ever blaming those princes, even his predecessors, who had not been strictly tenacious of their promise.

The protection and friendship of this great prince was sought on every side: all differences were submitted to his arbitration; and as he was equally beloved and feared for his wisdom and his power, no appeal was ever made against his decisions; nor did any prince dare to attack those states which he had taken under his protection: he was, at the same time, so just, that he never infringed the rights of his neighbours. He had planned, it is said, the great design of uniting all the Christian princes to destroy the power of the Ottoman court. But he would not declare this design till he had so far pacified the internal bickerings of his kingdom, that he should have nothing to fear from that quarter. To this end he undertook the regulation of the various taxes and imposts, by abolishing the most burthenome, and substituting others more agreeable and easy to the subject.

It has been doubted whether he ever intended executing this great design; and many politicians have considered the immediate object of his warlike preparations to have been the house of Austria, whose extensive power then excited the jealousy of all Europe; and that he proposed immediately sending his army, in order to compel the archduke Leopold to evacuate Juliers. As he intended to leave the administration

stration of the state to the queen during his absence, she was crowned at St. Dennis, in order to give her more authority; and he gave orders for the necessary preparations for her solemn entry into Paris. He was willing to be an eye-witness how they went on, and accordingly got into his coach about four in the afternoon, on the 14th of May 1606. But just as he had entered the street, called La Ferronnerie, which was then very narrow, his coach being jammed in between two carts, and his footmen having quitted their post to pass under the charnel house of the *Holy Innocents*, a villain, named Ravallac, mounting with one foot a spoke of the wheel, stabbed him with a knife in two places in the breast; the first wound was between the two first ribs, and made the king cry out, "Ah! I am wounded!" but the second stroke cut the venous artery, above the left ventricle of the heart; when the blood issuing with great impetuosity, he vented a deep sigh, and died in a few moments after. This prince was then fifty-seven years of age, and had reigned twenty-one years. This detestable assassin was taken and examined, and it was judged from his answers, that his crime was the effect of the most shocking fanaticism.

The greatest foibles ascribed to this prince, was his variegated amours, and his being duped by his mistresses; though in one of his letters to Sully, he says, speaking of a favourite lady, "I had rather have lost ten mistresses like her, than one servant like you, attached to me for honourable and useful services."

To frame a just idea of this great prince, we must consider him as the conqueror of his kingdom, and the father of his people; the most beloved, and the most courageous of their kings; and who, as a warrior, knew how to blend the noblest sentiments with those of the greatest humanity.

MEMOIRS of the celebrated PETER CORNEILLE.

PETER Corneille, a celebrated French poet, was born at Roan upon the 6th of June, in the year 1606, and of considerable parents, his father holding no small places and honours under Lewis XIII. He was brought up to the bar, which he attended some little time; but formed with a genius too elevated for such a profession, and having no turn for business, he soon deserted it. In the mean time he had given the public no specimen of his great talents for poetry, nor was as yet conscious of possessing any such talents; and they tell us, that it was purely a trifling affair of gallantry, which gave occasion to the production of his first comedy, called *Melite*. The drama was then extremely low among the French: their tragedy flat and languid, their comedy nothing at all. Corneille was astonished to find himself the author of a piece entirely new, and at the prodigious success with which his *Melite* was acted. The French theatre seemed to be raised, and to flourish at once; and though deserted in a manner before, was now filled of a sudden with a new

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company of actors. After so happy an essay he continued to oblige the public with several other pieces of the same kind; all of them indeed inferior to what he afterwards produced, but much superior to any thing which the French had seen before. His *Medea* came forth next, a tragedy, and borrowed in part from Seneca: and in 1637 he presented the *Cid*, another tragedy, in which he shewed the world how high his genius was capable of rising. All Europe has seen the *Cid*: it has been translated into almost all languages: and the prodigious reputation which he acquired by this play, drew all the wits of his time into a confederacy against it. Some treated it contemptuously, others wrote against it. Cardinal de Richlieu himself is said to have been one of this cabal: for, not content with passing for a great minister of state, he must needs affect to pass for a great wit too; and therefore, though in the mean time he had settled a pension upon the poet, could not restrain himself from secret attempts against his play. It was supposed to be under his influence, that the French academy drew up that critique upon it, entitled, *Sentiments of the French Academy upon the tragic-comedy of Cid*: in which, however, if they censured it in some places, they did not scruple to praise it very highly in others. Corneille had nothing to do now, but to support the vast reputation he had gained; and this he did by many admirable performances, published one after another, which, as Mr. Bayle observes, "carried the French theatre to its highest pitch of glory, and assuredly much

higher than the ancient one of Athens." In 1647, he was chosen a member of the French academy, and was, what they call Dean of that society at the time of his death, which happened in 1684, in the 79th year of his age.

He was, it is said, a man of a devout and melancholy cast, and upon a disgust he had conceived to the theatre, from the cold reception of his play *Perthorite*, betook himself to the translation of a famous book called, "The Imitation of Jesus Christ," which he performed very finely. He spoke very little in company, even upon subjects which he perfectly understood. He was a very honest and worthy man; not very dextrous in making his court to the great, which was perhaps the chief reason why he never drew any considerable advantage from his productions, besides that vast reputation which will always attend them. From a speech which Mr. Racine made to the French academy in the beginning of the year 1685, we may form the justest notions of our author's talents. After representing the miserable state the French theatre was in, that it was without order, decency, sense, taste, he shews you, how it was all of a sudden reformed by Corneille: "For, says he, this man possessed at once all those extraordinary talents, which form a great poet; art, force, judgment, and wit. Nor can any one sufficiently admire the greatness of his sentiments; the skill he shews in the oeconomy of his subjects, his masterly way of moving the passions, the dignity, and at the same time the vast variety of his characters.

This encomium must have the more weight, as it comes from the only man in the world, who was able to form an adequate idea of his merits; and who would probably have been the very man that he was, if he had had the luck to have been born before him. Corneille's works have been often printed, and consist of above thirty plays, comedies and tragedies. The best edition of them is that of Paris 1682, in four volumes in 12mo.

CHARACTER of ELIZABETH
Queen of England.

THIS princess was, with reason, considered as one of the greatest sovereigns that ever filled a throne, as she possessed in the highest degree, that rare talent so necessary for princes, of being beloved by their subjects, and feared by their enemies. She laid the foundation of that power which the nation at present enjoys. She was the daughter of Henry VIII. by Anna Bullen, born September 8, 1533. She had received from nature all those corporeal and mental qualifications, which render her sex so amiable. She was tall and well made, had light hair, black eyes, all her features regular and well formed; and an air which inspired respect crowned these external advantages. Her sense was refined, and her wit was poignant, yet delicate. So early as twelve years of age, she had made considerable progress in the sciences; having a perfect knowledge of geography, history, mechanics, architecture, and paint-

ing. A particular facility of learning languages astonished her masters; she spoke and wrote Latin with great fluency and propriety; and French, Italian, and Spanish, were quite familiar to her. At a very juvenile period she displayed an uncommon genius for politics; and she employed three hours every day in reading books that treated upon this science.

After the death of her father in 1547, and that of the young king Edward her brother, Mary, daughter of Henry VIII. and Catherine of Arragon, being proclaimed queen, Elizabeth testified to her sister every possible demonstration of friendship; but Mary having resolved to destroy the reformation, and restore the Romish religion, in embracing her one day, said, "My dear sister, I wish you were a good Catholic." Elizabeth, who had been brought up in the Protestant religion, replied, "I am entirely at your majesty's devotion in every thing but matters of conscience." From this moment a coolness took place between the sisters. The parliament was soon after assembled, and the marriage between Henry VIII. and Anna Bullen was pronounced illegitimate and void. Thus Elizabeth saw herself excluded from the crown, and the rank of princess of the blood; and even the settlement made by her father was taken from her. This treatment naturally inspired her with revenge, and it is not astonishing that she should league with the earl of Devonshire against the queen.

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duke de Montpensier, as ambassador to Elizabeth, to make a proposal of marriage, which he did in a private audience, when she replied, "That marriage was a subject she had not thought upon; but if ever she should enter into that state, she would prefer wedding a prince whom she should make a king, to a king that would make her a queen."

Elizabeth had for some time protected and assisted the Protestants of the Low Countries, who had been cruelly persecuted by the duke of Alva; when the Spaniards learning that she had entered into a treaty with them, and that the earl of Leicester was going over to Holland in quality of general, they considered these proceedings as a declaration of war; and Philip from this moment resolved to dethrone Elizabeth. Whilst Spain was making great preparations to attack England, Mary Stuart, who had been confined in prison for twenty years, was brought to trial: this measure, which carried the face of cruelty, is attributed to a letter from Philip to Mary, which was intercepted, and in which he promised to place her upon the throne. Mary was tried, and condemned to lose her head for conspiring against the life of the queen, and fomenting troubles in her kingdom. Mary in vain protested against the falsity of these accusations, and met her fate with religious resignation, Elizabeth's greatest advocates have vainly endeavoured to varnish over the slur cast upon her reputation by this act of cruelty; and the tragical end of the earl of Essex, hath afforded her enemies an ad-

ditional cause for attacking the levity of her character.

This nobleman had gained so entire an ascendancy over the queen, that people murmured loudly against the favourite; which induced her to send him upon an expedition in Ireland. He gained some advantages there; and upon his return pretended he was come to raise some additional troops for that service. He, nevertheless delayed his voyage; and upon his landing, instead of attacking the enemy, he entered into a negotiation with the earl of Tyrone, chief of the malecontents, without convening a council of war. His rivals in fortune and fame failed not to inform the queen of his proceedings, and represented them in the blackest light. Elizabeth, who knew that good policy would not allow even suspicions to pass unnoticed in such cases, and being, moreover offended that Essex had never communicated to her the result of the negotiation with the enemy, all the esteem she had entertained for him subsided, and she by degrees dispossessed him of all his authority. Essex, naturally proud, instead of justifying his conduct to the queen, threw off the mask, and made no farther mystery of his designs: he resolved to obtain a crown, or lose his life in the enterprise.

Elizabeth, upon this occasion, shewed she had courage enough to make her royal authority respected. He was immediately arrested, and brought to his trial. He appeared before his judges magnificently dressed, with a serene, intrepid air, being doubtless of opinion,

nion that the queen would never let him suffer death. The chief accusations against him were, that he had imprisoned the commissaries sent by the queen; that he had endeavoured to excite the inhabitants of London to revolt; and that he had compelled the sheriff to make the people take up arms. In consequence of his being found guilty he was condemned to death; but was respited eight days after sentence was pronounced, the queen's intention being to pardon him, if he had made intercession. His friends hourly urged him to this step; but he was inflexible, saying, he preferred death to such a submission, as there could be nothing more scandalous for a gentleman to endure existence obtained by favour. Such ill-timed pride met with the fate it deserved, and he suffered for his obstinacy more than his guilt.

Elizabeth deserved much praise for having reigned forty-four years peaceably over a people naturally inconstant, and at that period seditious and turbulent. It is astonishing, that though she mounted the throne at a time when the kingdom was distracted with divisions, occasioned by religious altercations, she supported herself in the midst of these troubles, and erected her own religion upon the ruins of that which had been the most formidable.

It is still more admirable, that a woman who had so many ene-

mies at home, so many rivals abroad, so many neighbouring powers who endeavoured to dethrone her, should become the terror of her enemies, more by her genius and address than the power of her arms—a testimony of the greatness of her soul, the superiority of her genius, and of her skill in government. It is indeed, said that she was a great comedian; but this must be considered metaphorically with respect to the part she acted as a refined politician, in bringing foreign princes into her views, and keeping her subjects in a state of tranquillity, by making them applaud all her enterprises.

She died on the third of April, 1603, in the seventieth year of her age, of a languishing disorder.

MEMOIRS of Mr. WILLIAM POWELL, the celebrated Tragedian.

THIS inimitable actor was born at Hereford*, in the year 1735. He received the first rudiments of his education at a grammar school, but through the indigence of his parents†, was taken away, and a place procured for him in that noble seminary, Christ's Hospital, where he made a rapid progress in those branches of learning necessary to qualify him for a man of business. On his leaving this school, Sir Robert

* The same city which boasts the honour of Mr. Garrick's nativity.

† Some accounts say his father was a gentleman's coachman.

Ladbroke, the president of the hospital, took him into his counting house, in the capacity of a clerk; and at this time, we believe he was about fifteen years of age.

In this character Powell went for the first time to the play, and has often been heard to say, he was so delighted with it, that he determined upon embracing the profession of an actor from that instant. In consequence of this resolution, all his leisure hours were employed in studying such characters as struck him most in the theatre, which he frequented whenever he could spare time or money for that purpose; and when the hours of business were over, often used to ascend the upper gallery stairs with the most eager curiosity, in order to see the two last acts of the performance. About this time he was introduced to what is usually called a spouting club, in which he got acquainted with Mr. Holland the celebrated actor, who was then in similar circumstances with himself, and a friendship commenced between these two theatrical candidates, that continued for several years after.

During the first part of Powell's apprenticeship, his regular conduct, attachment to business, and modest deportment, had gained him great esteem; but the reputation he had obtained among his companions for his theatrical abilities, intoxicated him so much, that the duties of his station began to be neglected in so great a degree, that his worthy master was not a little solicitous to know from whence this alteration in his behaviour arose; and no sooner discovered the cause, than he took

every rational method to divert his clerk from a pursuit which seemed so unlikely to turn out to his advantage; and understanding the spouting club had entirely engrossed Powell's attention, Sir Robert procured a dissolution of that society, to the great satisfaction of the neighbourhood.

For a considerable time after this, Powell's inclination for the stage appears to have lain dormant; he returned to his desk, and executed the duties of his office so much to the satisfaction of his master, that when the time of his apprenticeship was expired, that gentleman still entertained him in his counting-house, and gave him a genteel consideration for his trouble.

In the month of August 1759, Powell married Miss Branston, the daughter of an eminent tradesman near St. Paul's Church-Yard, a young lady of a very amiable disposition, whom he had long courted, and by whom he had, a short time after, two children, who are still living. This addition to his family, though his beneficent patron considerably increased his income on his marriage, obliged Powell to think of placing himself in some station beyond that of a book-keeper, in order to support his wife and children genteelly: the great encouragement his friend Holland had met with from the town, and the easy situation in which several second and third rate actors appeared to live, revived his passion for the drama, and determined him, provided he saw a probability of succeeding, to make an experiment upon the stage; he accordingly communicated his intention to Mr. Garrick, who, after hearing him rehearse

hearse several passages from different plays, gave him great reason to believe that he would prove an acquisition to the theatre.

Elated with this information, Powell applied himself solely to the study of such characters as were pointed out to him by our English Roscius; who, in a few months, was so well convinced of his possessing a real theatrical genius, that he, during the summer of 1763, entered into articles with him for three years; and, as he was at that time setting out, in order to make the tour of Italy, allotted him a considerable number of his own parts to appear in the ensuing winter.

The ingenious Mr. Colman, who then lived in the strictest intimacy with Mr. Garrick, soon became acquainted with our young candidate for public favour, and kindly undertook to alter an old play of Beaumont and Fletcher's, called *Philaster*, for his first appearance, which was at the theatre royal in Drury-Lane, on the 8th of October following. Powell's performance this night convinced the audience of his astonishing talents for the profession he had just entered upon, and he was so much admired in the part of *Philaster*, that the play brought twenty crowded houses during the course of the season; in which, from the reputation he gained in several capital characters, though Mr. Garrick was absent, the receipts

were greater than had been known for many years before.

At the conclusion of the first winter*, as Mr. Powell's salary, by agreement, amounted to no more than fifty shillings per week, the managers made him a present of one hundred guineas; and some time after, when his confidence and use of the stage enabled him to display his talents in their full force, his allowance was encreased to the sum of twelve pounds per week.

The fame of his abilities, and success at the London theatre, led the inhabitants of Bristol to invite him to the theatre in that city, during the recess of the London houses; and on his first performance, they were so charmed with him, as to be desirous of securing so capital a performer in future. In order to secure this point, they opened a subscription to provide him with a commodious theatre. Of this theatre, when built, they made him joint manager with Mr. Clarke, a choice which was amply justified by the spirited behaviour of the two actors, who instead of wishing to engross the advantages to themselves, immediately sacrificed their own interest to the entertainment of their benefactors, and invited Mr. Holland to a share of the management, who proved an auxiliary of the most powerful kind, and made their company by much the most capital in any of the provinces.

* It has been asserted, and we believe with great truth, that in this one season he played one hundred and thirty nights, a great instance of application and assiduity, especially as most of the parts he played were capital.

About this period, the family of the late Mr. Rich, proposed parting with the Covent-Garden patent; the price they set upon it was 60,000*l.* and Mr. Colman and two other gentlemen being in treaty for the purchase, the former proposed Powell should be added to their number. Nothing could have afforded greater gratification to the ambition of our young hero, than the prospect of this proposal being carried into execution, but there were two obstacles that seemed to preclude him from all hopes of becoming one of the managers of Covent-Garden theatre; the first was, that he unluckily happened at that time to be under articles with the patentees of Drury-Lane for the term of three years, and the second that he knew not where to raise the sum of 15,000*l.* which was required for his fourth of the property. The last and most material of these obstructions to his advancement, however, was soon after obviated by his meeting with a friend who prevailed upon a certain nobleman, to whom we owe the conquest of the Havannah, to lend him the sum of 11,000*l.* The rest of the money was soon raised, and Powell resolving to get over all impediments to his good fortune, boldly broke his articles with Mess. Garrick and Lacy, though it is said by some persons with great appearance of probability, that he was secured from the disagreeable consequences that might attend the taking of this step, by his new colleagues.

On the 14th of September, in the year 1767, the theatre royal in Covent-Garden was opened under the direction of the four new managers, with the play of the

Rehearsal, to which Powell spoke a prologue, adapted to the theatrical revolution that had just happened, and during that season, performed most of the capital characters in tragedy with amazing success, to the great advantage of the new undertakers.

In the altercations which ensued between the managers of Covent Garden theatre, Mr. Powell most prudently and judiciously united with Mr. Colman, whose knowledge of theatrical government so justly entitled him to the direction that was voluntarily conferred upon him by the other patentees.

Notwithstanding these intestine feuds in the green-room, the audience have constantly been unanimous in applauding the regulations of Mr. Colman, and the entertainment he prepared for them: and the profits resulting from the exhibitions of these last two years have testified the skill of his management.

Powell having now become a proprietor of a theatre in London, as well as in Bristol, and receiving very considerable emoluments from his performance as an actor, to say nothing of the universal estimation he possesseth, it might naturally be expected that so sudden a rise from a contracted income into an extensive opulence, and so quick an advancement from obscurity into public regard, would have made a material alteration in his temper; few heads are sufficiently steady to look from a pinnacle of unexpected good fortune, without turning giddy at the elevation. Greatly to Powell's honour, the case with him was utterly otherwise; his prosperity gave him opportunities

portunities of obliging many of his old acquaintance, but filled him with no vain anxiety to forget them; on the contrary, he was never happier than to recognize the companions of his humbler situation, unless when he found they could be benefited by his assistance; then indeed he experienced an exquisite satisfaction, and seemed absolutely transported with the reward of his own humanity. Thus we find, that prosperity made no alteration in the benevolent heart of Powell; he was as modest, affable, social, and friendly, while he had the direction of a numerous body of theatrical retainers, as he was when an under clerk in Sir Robert Ladbrooke's compting-house, and bore his good fortune with a moderation truly laudable, and such as is very seldom preserved by those, who from an obscure station suddenly enjoy the smiles of that enchanting goddess.

Powell was of a disposition so social, as to be extremely fond of company, and as the friends, with whom he usually mingled, were men of a convivial turn, entertaining to an excess, and professed lovers of the glass, it frequently happened that temperance was totally forgotten in the glowing hour of festivity. Irregularities of this kind, joined to the great fatigue which he underwent in executing a wide variety of difficult characters, were too much for a constitution naturally delicate: this poor Powell fatally experienced; he was often indisposed after any considerable lapse, and became at last subject to a kind of periodical rheumatism.

About the latter end of May

1769, he set out with his family for Bristol, where he only performed two nights before he was attacked by the fatal fever that occasioned his death. During his illness, which lasted near a month, he was frequently delirious, but the day before he died, he recovered his senses, and seemed perfectly resigned to his fate, which he insisted upon was approaching, though the physician who had attended with the greatest assiduity, tried to comfort him, by declaring that he was better "No! no! Sir, says Powell, your humanity makes you endeavour to impose upon me: in a few hours I shall be numbered with the dead, and I sincerely declare nothing gives me pain in leaving this world, but the parting from those I love." That night he began to rave, and on Monday evening, July 3, his delirium increased, and he expired in the most violent agitation of spirits.

The play of King Richard was to be performed that night, and the sad intelligence being brought to the theatre just as the curtain drew up, the managers could not gratify their own and the company's wishes, not to perform, without the highest disrespect to the audience; the actors therefore exerted all their efforts to discharge their respective characters—but what an affecting instance was it of the true regard they bore to their lost brother, and of the humanity of the spectators! Scarcely an actor appeared without streaming eyes and a broken voice. The fictitious lamentations in the second act for the loss of king Edward, were converted into real anguish for their own loss, and aggravated their

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their sensation so much, that Mr. Holland was compelled to apologize for their incapacity to acquit themselves as usual. This the humane audience readily admitted by their sympathetic feelings and appearance, and even approved those defects which had their source in friendship and affection. They moreover, when desired to accept of a farce different from what was advertised, loudly declared their willingness to depart without any.

At his funeral the corpse was attended by the Rev. Dr. Barton, dean of Bristol, and several of the principal inhabitants, amidst a prodigious concourse of people, to the College church, where an anthem was sung by the gentlemen of the choir, over the body, which after the burial service was read by the dean, was deposited with great solemnity in a vault near the north isle of the church, over which, a handsome monument we hear is shortly to be erected to his memory, at the expense of his ingenious friend Mr. Colman.

Thus died in the thirty-fourth year of his age, William Powell, a man who enjoyed an uninterrupted course of public favour, from his first entrance on a profession, in which the acquisition of fame is difficult, and the possession of it precarious; whose virtues deserved the highest commendation, and whose errors, it is an act of piety to cover with a veil, as they were of that nature which every one would wish to forget, who makes the least allowance for the frailties of youth and inexperience.

His person was rather above the

middle size, well proportioned and genteel; his countenance happy and expressive; a marking eye, a variegated brow, which portrayed sorrow, love, sympathy, fear, anger, revenge, disappointment, and despair: in a word, all the passions of the soul he strongly depicted as the character and circumstance required. His voice was more melodious than commanding; and though not possessed of the tone of a Mossop, or the warbling of a Barry, had great compass and modulation. His peculiar forte lay in his feelings, which he displayed, perhaps, beyond any other actor that ever appeared on the stage.

The hoary age of Virginius, whose parental affection, and whose heroic patriotism, by turns agitate the tender feelings of the human breast, seemed pencilled by the poet for this actor. Powell was the Roman Father, in every line, in every action. In Jaffier, the fond, the incautious, yet the friendly Jaffier—whether pouring forth the fond accents of his love to Belvidera, or bleeding on the scaffold for his friend, he conveyed all that Otway wrote or thought, when he drew this character. Nor was his success in genteel comedy inferior to the just applause he met with in tragedy: his representation of lord Townly was spirited, characteristic, and manly.

Yet we would not insinuate he was an universal actor—In his Lusignan and Castlio, nature was liberal in her lessons to him; but in his Hamlet, Othello, and Macbeth, she denied him almost any assistance: hence, in the one, we saw grace, tenderness, and sensibility; in the other, art, confusion, mistake,

mistake, and inconsistency; inso-
much, that to a judicious person
who had never seen him in these
characters in which he so justly
merited applause, he would won-
der how the world could be mista-
ken in their approbation. Powell
had one great perfection, which
was attention in his performance—
he never played negligently; let
his part be what it would, his
heart was constantly interested;
and as his own sensibility was al-
ways strong, so he always strong-
ly affected the sensibility of others/
—Though a very short time on
the stage, he acquired great repu-
tation; and his death in the present
scarcity of eminent performers,
may be justly pronounced an irre-
parable loss to the theatre.

Various accounts of this great
actor, have appeared in the public
prints since his death, all which
we have carefully examined, and
after comparing them with what
we knew of him and his affairs
from an intimacy of many years,
we have compiled and digested the
above account, which we shall close
with an epitaph, said to be writ-
ten by Mr WOTY.

EPITAPH *for* Mr. POWELL'S
TOMB.

READER, if thou can'st boast a
generous mind,
Weep at his death, who *felt* for
ALL MANKIND!*

ANECDOTES of ANNE *Duchess* of
ALBEMARLE., *who lived in the*
reign of Charles II.

ANNE CLARGES, *duchess*
of Albemarle, was the
daughter of a blacksmith †, who
gave her an education suitable to
the employment she was bred to,
which was that of a milliner. As
the manners are generally formed
early in life, she retained some-
thing of the smith's daughter,
even at her highest elevation. She
was first the mistress, and after-
wards the wife of general Monck;
who had such an opinion of her
understanding, that he often con-
sulted her in the greatest emer-
gencies. As she was a thorough
royalist, it is probable she had no
inconsiderable share in the Restora-

* Alluding to his exquisite sensibility, and to his profession.

† The following quotation is from a MS. of Mr. Aubrey, in Ashmole's
Museum. When he (Monck) was prisoner in the Tower, his mistress,
Nan Clarges, a blacksmith's daughter, was kind to him in a double capa-
city. It must be remembered he was then in want, and that she assisted
him. Here she was got with child. She was not at all handsome nor clean-
ly: her mother was one of the five women barbers, and a woman of
ill-fame. A ballad was made on her and the other four: the burden of
it was,

Did you ever hear the like,
Or ever hear the same,
Of five women barbers
That liv'd in Drury-Lane?

tion.

tion. She is supposed to have recommended several of the privy-counsellors in the list which the general presented to the king soon after his landing. It is more than probable that she carried on a very lucrative trade in selling of offices, which were generally filled by such as gave her most money. She was an implacable enemy to lord Clarendon; and had so great an influence over her husband, as to prevail upon him to assist in the ruin of that great man, though he was one of his best friends. Indeed, the general was afraid to offend her, as she presently took fire; and her anger knew no bounds. She was a great mistress of all the low eloquence of abusive rage, and seldom failed to discharge a volley of curses against such as thoroughly provoked her. Nothing is more certain that that the intrepid commander, *who was never afraid of bullets*, was often terrified by the fury of his wife.

ANECDOTE of VOLTAIRE.

SOME years since, Voltaire wrote a very severe satire upon the king of P——, which so nettled him, that he never could forgive it. Upon hearing that the bard was at Leipzig, he told, count de——, one of his aid de camps, that he could confer a singular obligation on him: the aid de camp, who said he only lived to obey his Majesty, was told, the object was to properly requite Mr. Voltaire for the obligation he had conferred in that satire. The hint was sufficient, the count flew

to execute his sovereign's pleasure. He repaired to Leipzig, and waiting one morning upon Voltaire, he complimented him upon his extraordinary merit, and enquired if he was not the author of that particular poem, to which the bard very innocently replied, yes; "then, Sir, said he, it is a scandal to the judgment of the present age, that you have not yet been properly recompensed for it. I have a commission, Sir, to reward you liberally for this production, and I have too great a sense of its value, and too much generosity to deprive you of any part of your due." Having said this, he caned him very severely, whilst the unfortunate bard in vain pleaded for mercy. The obligation being thus required, the count drew up a receipt, in the following terms, which he insisted upon Voltaire's signing, on pain of farther corporal punishment.

"Received of his P——
M——, by the hands of the
count de——, one hundred
bastinadoes, very judiciously applied, for having wrote a satire upon his said majesty, in full of all demands, witness my hand,
VOLTAIRE."

ANECDOTES of some of the most eminent Wits of France in the time of Lewis XIV.

THE most celebrated wits of France, in the time of Lewis XIV. lived in the greatest unanimity and harmony, and, attracted by a mutual esteem for each other's merit, formed themselves into a friendly society, and oftener

oftener than once in a week had a common supper, when the pleasures of the table were the least part of the entertainment, and where the conversation, we doubt not, was far more worthy to be recorded than that of the seven wise Greeks, related by Plutarch.

Moliere, one of the gayest companions of this brilliant company, frequently entertained them at a villa he possessed on the banks of the Seine, near Paris: his worthy guests, in general, were too good judges of pleasure to let intoxication usurp the seat of wit and learning; though Bacchus was always admitted to enliven the spirit of the Muses.

This agreeable party, consisting of Peter and Thomas Corneille, Racine, Chapelle, Moliere, Patru, la Fontaine, la Bruiere, and several other respectable writers, being one evening at Moliere's country-house, the host, quite fatigued, was obliged to retire to rest, and leave his post to Chapelle. The wit, in order to increase the spirits of his company, pushed the champaign briskly about, and intoxication unperceived stole in. They began to talk of morality, and consequently of the futility of the pleasures of this world, and came at last to this conclusion, That the great object of human life should be, by some renowned action, to acquire immortal fame. From this observation, one of the company took occasion to say, "Gentlemen, this being the case, since life is so worthless, and fame so desirable, what can be more eligible, more noble, or more glorious, than by shaking off this load of life, to acquire eternal renown? My ad-

vice therefore is, that we should all go together to the Seine, and there plunge in; and by thus dying in that unity with which we have lived, our names and our friendship will be celebrated by all posterity." The vapours of the wine had so far heated their imaginations, and clouded their judgments, that this extravagant proposition appeared highly rational. They prepared, therefore, with great solemnity to offer this sacrifice to fame.

A poor old servant, who was perfectly sober, understanding their design, ran and waked his master: Moliere presently appeared among them, was immediately acquainted with their intention, and invited to partake of immortality. He thought it would not be prudent to oppose their project directly, but said, "My dear friends, I approve your design extremely, and am very ready to enjoy so glorious a death; but by no means at this time, for posterity may insinuate, by its being performed at so late an hour, that it was not the effect of philosophy, but ebriety: and so important an action should be free even from a possibility of reflection: the only wise step, therefore, to be taken is, that every one repair to his own bed, and that we assemble early in the morning, and then, with that coolness, and serenity becoming true philosophers, carry this noble design into execution." This proposal met with universal approbation, and every one except Moliere, retired contentedly to bed. The next morning, when these great men had recovered the use of their reason, they shuddered at that rashness which a few hours

hours before had appeared so glorious; and acknowledged, that the only road to real fame was to exert their abilities in the service of literature, instead of rendering their memories detestable by an unthinking and useless act of suicide.

ANECDOTES of Mr. HOLLAND
the late celebrated tragedian.

Charles Holland was born at Chiswick, in Middlesex, in the year 1733, and after being instructed in those branches of education that are esteemed most useful to men of business, he was placed by his friends with a turpentine merchant in the city, to whom he was soon after bound apprentice. During the early part of his servitude, he discharged his duty so much to the satisfaction of his master, that he was very soon indulged with more freedom than is usually allowed to lads in that station. About this period, he for the first time saw our English Roscius, whose admirable performance made such an impression upon him, that he immediately became enamoured with the profession of a player, and some time after entered himself a member of the Roscian society in Gutter Lane, where a number of young men assembled two or three evenings in a week, in order to rehearse such characters, as they afterwards represented in private plays for the entertainment of their friends. In one of these performances, our young spouter received such uncommon proofs of the spectators thinking him pos-

essed of great theatrical abilities, that he directly applied to Mr. Garrick, who, after hearing him repeat several passages, pronounced he would one day make an actor, but advised him by no means to think of appearing in public, till he had consulted his friends, and fulfilled his engagement with his master. This counsel Holland invariably pursued, and resolutely returned to the business of the warehouse, which he transacted with such attention and fidelity that he gained universal esteem.

His passion for the stage, however, did not in the least subside; all his leisure hours were employed in preparing himself by the most rational methods for making a figure in the profession he so much admired, and he has been frequently known to spend the greatest part of the night in the study of characters which the avocations of the day would not permit him to examine.

In the year 1754, Holland made his appearance upon the stage in the character of Oroonoko, in which he acquired great reputation, though he was not a little disconcerted the first night, by an accident that befel Mr. Burton, who played the governor, and who was unluckily wounded by him in the face. During the course of the season he performed Eumenes in Merope, and several other capital characters, in which he was received with uncommon applause by the public. His salary, however, at this time did not amount to more than thirty shillings per week, but the next winter it was considerably encreased, and on Mr. Mossop's going to Ireland, he became possessed of several new parts,

parts, and received a farther augmentation of pay.

During the theatrical contention in Dublin between Barry and Mofop, they repeatedly invited Holland over to perform in that metropolis, and accordingly in the summer of the year 1763, he agreed to the proposal of the latter, and played ten nights at Smock-Alley theatre, for which he received the sum of 100 l. and a benefit. A considerable offer was made him to continue during the winter at Dublin, but his attachment to Mr. Garrick, who had, upon various occasions, given him the strongest proofs of his regard, determined him to return to London.

A regular theatre being established in Bristol for the summer season about three years ago, Holland was invited by the late Mr. Powell, with whom he had long lived in the greatest intimacy, to unite with him in the direction of the drama of that city, and in this capacity he acquitted himself so well, that it was apparent the lessons he had received from his great master, had qualified him no less for an excellent manager than a distinguished actor.

At the period when this eminent performer enjoyed a salary of twelve pounds per week for his theatrical labours (which reckoning according to play-house pay, amounted to 400 l. in the season) and was in the height of his reputation, he was suddenly seized with the small-pox, for which his acquaintance had frequently persuaded him, in vain, to undergo inoculation. The disorder at first put on a mild appearance, but soon after turned out of the confluent kind; when perceiving that

the gentlemen who attended him, Dr. Schomberg and Dr. Kehlan, had but little hopes of his recovery, he resigned himself to his fate with uncommon resolution, and died with great composure, after twelve days illness, on the 7th of December 1769, in the 36th year of his age.

The characters Mr. Holland obtained the most reputation in were Richard III. Brutus, Hamlet, Pierre, Timur in Zingis, Manly in the Plain Dealer, and some other parts of weight in comedy. He was not fond of letters, though he applied with uncommon assiduity to his profession, and was so accurate in repeating the words of his author, that he was rarely known to make the most trifling alteration in the language of the characters he represented. As a private man, he was open, affable and honest; very frugal, yet of a convivial turn, and by no means backward in performing acts of generosity; and his conversation, except sometimes in his careless moments, when he mistook impudence for wit, and rudeness for sincerity, was sensible and entertaining.

We shall conclude this article with some account of this gentleman's amours, as related in the *Town and Country Magazine* for last December, a work which we have before recommended to public notice.

He was a great favourite of the ladies, and the distinction with which some of them honoured him, has rendered him famous in the annals of gallantry: among the chief of his amours stands his connexion with Mrs. E——le, which occasioned a prosecution against

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against him by her husband for *crim. con.* Various have been the accounts of this *not unfashionable* business; but the public may depend upon what follows to be genuine.

Mr. Holland had received many letters signed *Leonora*; some replete with the most extravagant praises of him as an actor, and others declaring, "that the writer should have thought herself happy, if he had fallen to her lot, as a companion for life; but as fortune had cruelly denied her that extreme gratification, she should enjoy no rest, till he had assured her in the most solemn manner, that he would attempt nothing against her virtue, if he was indulged with an interview." The letter which contained this last declaration, inclosed a present of four lottery tickets; and mentioned that a servant would call for an answer in a few days.

Our hero's curiosity was hereby strongly excited; and as he was not deficient in point of vanity, his imagination suggested, that his person and talents had captivated the heart of a woman of the highest rank and fortune. He therefore resolved to answer her kind letter, when he assured the fair unknown, in the true tragedy style, "of his gratitude and eternal attachment; that he thought himself too much honoured by her notice, to attempt anything which could be thought disagreeable to a lady, who had laid him under such obligations, that a whole life

of services could not repay," but added, "that he was racked with impatience to see a fair one, whose beauty was doubtless equal to her understanding, condescension, and generosity."

Near a month elapsed before the impatient Mr. Holland received an answer to an epistle, which had cost him much pains, and many transcriptions. The reply, however, at length assured him, in the most tender manner, that the writer's sentiments remained unchanged: that she had been extremely ill, was ordered into the country for the recovery of her health; but that, soon after her return, he might depend upon hearing from her again. She, at the same time desired him to accept of the diamond ring* inclosed, and to wear it constantly for her sake.

In about six weeks, from this period, our heroine returned from the country; and in a letter penned in the usual strain, assured the object of her passion, that she had now determined to enter on an interview; and that she would call on him at his lodgings under the Piazza, Covent-Garden, on the Sunday morning following, as it was a day he was sure of being relieved from the fatigue of entertaining the town.

In this irksome interval, our tragedian's soul was continually up in arms, and he formed ten thousand plans of the manner in which he should receive her ladyship or her grace; some of them as ridi-

* We cannot gratify our reader by acquainting him, whether this was the best diamond ring, mentioned in Mr. Holland's will.

culous as those of lady Withfor't in her amour with Sir Rowland Witwou'd.

The happy moment at length arrived, and a plump, well-dressed female entered Mr. Holland's dining-room, when he exerted the utmost powers of his elocution, in thanking her for the unmerited favour she conferred upon him; calling up all the assistance of *stage-trick*, by counterfeiting confusion, terror, &c. On which the lady accosted him in this manner. "Sir, you may spare your declarations and transports for another person; I am not the lady, who has been your correspondent for some time, but an intimate friend, who can refuse her nothing; and, as she found herself incapable of meeting you alone, I undertook the task from motives of pure friendship and compassion. Her coach is now at the door. She has a villa near town, and, if you please, I will accompany you thither to dinner."

It is almost needless to observe that Mr. Holland gave his assent in terms of the utmost impatience; when every thing being adjusted, the carriage moved briskly on, and soon arrived at the place of its destination near Hamstead. Here he was introduced into an elegant apartment, and regaled with chocolate, whilst his fair inamorata was mustering up courage to meet him whom she had often seen in the characters of a king, a hero, and a statesman. Every decent preparatory step being taken, he was suffered to approach his princefs, when (as Mr. Hume said of himself and Rousseau) *a very tender scene ensued*.

The reader will readily forgive our not furnishing him with all the

particulars of the conversation; first, because we are not sufficiently acquainted with it; and, secondly, because we do not think it would prove either instructive or entertaining. Suffice it to say, that Mrs. E——le had personal charms to rivet those fetters her pen had forged; that they came to a perfect understanding; and were so well pleased with each other, that the lady removed to a house in Arundel-street for the convenience of indulging a passion she had gone such lengths, and taken such pains to gratify.

Immersed in these sweet moments of enjoyment, our lovers little suspected the fate that hovered over them: and were greatly surprised, after the assiduous care they had taken to conceal their amour, to find an action brought against Mr. Holland, by the enraged Mr. E——le for *crim. con* and still more so that Miss G——t, the complaisant, friendly lady first mentioned in these anecdotes, was to be produced by Mr. E——le, as the sole witness to prove the deed. This stroke operated like a thunder-storm, and dispersed at once all the loves and graces; the lady retreating to obscurity, and the gentleman preparing for his defence. As he had no doubt of the fact being fully ascertained, his only resource was to prove, from his salary, and other circumstances, that he was incapable of paying large damages. This precaution was, however, soon rendered unnecessary by a message from the prosecutor, who *convinced* the culprit, that it was his interest to make *no defence*, as in that case no more than fifty pounds damage would be claimed; and even that small sum not received,

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ceived. What could our hero do? In this exigence blank verse could be of little use to him; and he therefore submitted to his fate, which turned out exactly as he had been promised; it plainly appearing that the husband's sole view was to get rid of a wife for whom he had no regard, without refunding a shilling of her fortune, which was very considerable; and that in this honourable pursuit he had effected his purpose, by means of the *virtuous* lady*, who had insinuated herself into the confidence of the unfortunate wife, whose virtue she had, in a great measure, contributed to subvert.

This lucky escape was not a sufficient warning for Mr. Holland to avoid all future connections with married women; for, if report is to be credited, a very strict intimacy subsisted between him and Mrs. B——, the actress, a considerable time before his death; and she is said to have been so

deeply affected at his loss, that she was not able to make her appearance upon the stage for some time after, though her name was constantly in the bills during that period.

Mr. Holland had for some years before he died been joint-manager with the late Mr. Powell, of the theatre at Bristol, where they met with great success; which, added to Mr. Holland's salary at Drury-Lane, enabled him to save near the sum of five thousand pounds, which he has bequeathed to his mother and brothers; and the following legacies to his friends. To Mr. Garrick his best diamond ring; to Mr. Foote his gold headed cane; to Mr. Maden, one of the executors, a diamond ring; to Mr. George Garrick, his other executor, thirty pounds; to Mr. Atkinson, his apothecary, five guineas; and about twenty mourning rings to his acquaintance.

* Miss G——t, when examined in the c—— of K—— B—— pretended to fall into fits; and though the necessary questions were put in the most decent manner to her, she made use of a thousand childish evasions: it appeared, however, that what she saw was from a hole made by herself, in the partition that separated Mrs. E——le's apartment.

A N T I Q U I T I E S.

*On the ANTIQUITIES of LONDON.**

THE earliest account of this city was wrote in Latin by William Fitz-Stephens, native thereof, and monk of Canterbury, who died 1191, intituled, "Descriptio nobilissimæ civitatis Londoniæ;" a translation of it was inserted in the folio editions of Stowe's Survey, and the original in the quarto ones: but since republished, with observations and notes, at the end of Leland's Itinerary, vol. viii. from a more correct MS. on vellum given by Dr. Marshall to Hearne, and the only one he ever saw. Robert Bale, recorder of London 1461, compiled a large account of its history and antiquities; but of his pieces which were long preserved in the city library or archives, only the titles have come down to us. Alderman Fabian's Annals of London have shared the same fate, unless we suppose, with bishop Nicholson, that they are incorporated into his printed Chronicle. Bagford persuades himself that Leland wrote a particular account of London, now lost, though it does not appear in the list of his works; he thinks Stowe was greatly be-

holden to it without acknowledgment. That honest industrious taylor, who "seeing the confused order of our late English chronicles, and the ignorant handling of antient affaires, leaving his owne peculiar ganes, consecrated himself to the searche of our famous antiquities," was the first that attempted a regular and particular description of this city. He began his studies with his Annals about 1560, for which he travelled over the kingdom on foot, perusing and purchasing innumerable papers just before dispersed out of the monastic libraries, and sold for pennyworths. When he had almost ruined himself he found an especial benefactor in archbishop Parker. But pecuniary difficulties were not all he had to struggle with: his antiquarian collections and his younger brother's villainy brought his life into danger on pretence of religion. His Summary of the Chronicles of England was first published 1565, frequently reprinted, abridged, and continued to 1618. His larger chronicle of annals, of which he printed only an abstract, leaving the entire work fitted for the press, passed into Sir Simon D'Ewes's hands, but seems to have been

* *From Anecdotes of British Topography.*

since lost. His curious and valuable account of this city, which cost him many years of close application, of which he spent eight in searching out antient records relative to the subject, was first printed under the title of, "A Survey of London, containyng the originall, antiquity, increase, moderne estate, and description of that citie; written in the year 1598, by John Stowe, citizen of London; also an apologie (or defence) against the opinion of some men, concerning that citie, the greatnesse thereof; with an appendix, containing in Latine, Libellum de situ & nobilitate Londini, written by William Fitz-Stephen in the reign of Henry the second. Lond. 1598." 4to. A second edition came out in the author's life-time, 1603, 4to, in which he intended large improvements, but was prevented by his own ill health and the death of his able friend John Dalton, Esq; from inserting any, except a few additions about the civil government of the city out of his own learned storehouse. Stowe survived this edition but two years. The city and nation he had immortalized neglected him. James I. indeed granted him a brief or licence, authorising him or his deputy to receive at the church doors the benevolence of well-disposed peo-

ple, in recompence of his painful labours, and for encouragement to the like: but he died of poverty, the gout and stone, in his 80th year, 1605, and was buried at his parish church of St. Andrew Undershaft, where his widow erected a monument.

An Account of the natural and artificial Antiquities and Curiosities in the Royal Museum at Copenhagen.

THE Royal Museum at Copenhagen contains a noble collection of curiosities, both natural and artificial. Dr. Oliver informs us, that this collection is preserved in eight chambers, built over the royal library, which is large and well furnished. One of these rooms is wholly taken up with medals, antique and modern, each sort being kept by themselves, and very judiciously arranged; and in a separate case are contained the Paduans*, and other counterfeit medals, which in workmanship so nearly resemble the true Grecian and Roman antiques, that a good judge can scarce distinguish them from originals. The series of the modern medals of European nations are absolutely

* A Paduan, amongst medalists, is a modern medal struck with all the marks and characters of antiquity. The name is taken from a famous Italian painter, called the Paduan, from Padua the place of his birth, who succeeded so well in the cheat, that the best judges are at a loss to distinguish his medals from those which are really antique. His son Octavio, born at Rome, was called the Paduan. Laurentius Parmesanus and Bellus Ventinus in Italy, and Carteron in Holland, had likewise the art of imitating medals in great perfection.

complete, and those of each nation kept distinctly.

Amongst the natural curiosities preserved in the chambers, one of the most remarkable is a petrified child, the history whereof has been given us at large by Bartholine, Licetus, and other authors. This child was cut out of the mother's belly at Sens in Champagne, in the year 1582, after having lain there between twenty and thirty years; and that it is a human foetus, and not artificial, is evident beyond all dispute. Its head, shoulders, and belly, are of a whitish colour, and very much resemble alabaster; the back and loins are somewhat brown and harder; but from the hips downwards it is of a red colour, and as hard as perfect stone can be, exactly resembling the hard sort of stones generated in the bladder. This foetus, after it was taken from the mother, was first carried to Paris, where it was sold to a jeweller of Venice, who happened to be there, for about twenty pounds sterling: of whom it was afterwards purchased by Frederic the Third, king of Denmark, for sixty pounds, and added to this collection.

In one of the chambers are to be seen two elephants teeth, each weighing a hundred and fifty pounds, which were dug out of a stone quarry in Saxony.

Here is also an egg laid by a woman, about the size of a common puller's egg, which Olaus Wormius tells us was sent him by very good hands, and the truth of the fact confirmed by people of credit. The woman, he says, brought forth two eggs, with the usual child-birth pains; but the neighbours, who were called in

to her assistance, broke the first, wherein they found a yolk and a white, as in that of a hen.

We likewise see here an unicorn's horn, as it is called, white as ivory, and spirally twisted. This, however, is not the horn of any land animal, but belongs to a kind of fish called a Narval.

In this fine collection there are several large pieces of silver ore, dug out of the mines of Norway in 1666, one of which weighs five hundred and sixty pounds, and is valued at five thousand crowns. Another piece, somewhat less, is valued at more than three thousand; both being so rich, that they are reckoned to contain at least three parts silver. They are composed of a whitish stone, the cracks or cavities whereof seem to be filled with pure virgin silver, which in some places lies in broad flat plates, and in others like pieces of fine silver-lace: but what is most admired in these pieces of ore are the threads or branches of silver which shoot out an inch or two beyond the surface of the stone, appearing in the form of small shrubs or bushes; and several other ramifications of this kind are to be seen among the silver ores preserved in this Museum.

Here we also find several large pieces of amber, some weighing forty or fifty ounces; which upon opening the ditches about Copenhagen, when they fortified the city, were found sticking to the sides of old trees that were buried there, like the gum on the plumb-trees in our gardens.

In the same chamber are a great many large branches of white and red coral, and one of black; like-

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wife a pair of stag's-horns growing out of a piece of wood in a surprising manner.

Here is a human thigh bone, three feet three inches long, as measured by Dr. Oliver himself; and two very large scollop-shells, holding about three gallons each, and weighing two hundred and twenty-four pounds a-piece. These were brought from the East Indies; and it is said the fish they belonged to is of such strength, that if a man happens to get his arm or leg between the shell when they open, it closes them together so forcibly, as to cut the limb clear off.

A piece of marble is preserved in this collection, which the Lutherans reckon a very valuable curiosity, the natural veins of the stone running in a such manner as to represent the exact figure of a crucifix. Some indeed have suspected the representation to have been by art; but upon the nicest examination it appears to be entirely the work of nature.

Amongst the artificial curiosities, there is a skeleton made of ivory, two feet six inches high, in imitation of a human one; and it is so nicely formed and put together, that one might easily take it for a natural skeleton.

There are likewise two crucifixes of ivory, and the whole history of our Saviour's passion beautifully expressed in a piece of carved work.

A small man of war in ivory, with silver guns, is a curiosity much admired; as is also a watch made of ivory, with all its wheels and movements.

Besides these there are many other curiosities in ivory, ebony,

box, amber, and other materials, which are kept for the sake of elegant workmanship: and we are told there is a common cherry-stone, on the surface of which are engraved two hundred and twenty heads, but their smallness makes them appear imperfect and confused.

In this royal repository we find six golden sepulchral urns, which were discovered in the island of Funen in 1683, by a peasant, as he was ploughing his land, and contained each of them some ashes of a greyish colour. The largest of them weighs two ounces and a half, and the others two ounces and a drachm. They are very thin, and each has three rings of gold about its neck, with several circles carved upon the outside of the urn, having one common center. This discovery confirms the account given us by Olaus Wormius and other writers, that it was an ancient custom among the northern nations to burn their dead, and then bury their collected ashes in golden urns.

There is another sepulchral urn of chrystal, of a conical figure, which has also a golden ring about it, and was found near Bergen in Norway.

There are likewise in this collection several vessels of different sizes, some of glass and others of earth, which are called Lachrymal urns, or Lachrymatories, being used by the ancient Romans to catch the tears of weeping friends, which were afterwards mixed with the ashes of the deceased.

We shall conclude our account of this celebrated museum with a description of the Danish and

Oldenburg horns, two curiosities which are much admired. The Danish horn is of pure gold, weighs a hundred and two ounces and a half, is two feet nine inches long, and holds about two quarts of wine measure. This horn was accidentally discovered in the year 1639, by a country girl, in the diocese of Rypen in Jutland; and is undoubtedly a piece of great antiquity, by the figures carved on the outside, which seem to be hieroglyphics, devils, hobgoblins, &c. Perhaps some of these figures were designed to represent their deities, and the horn was probably used in sacrifices, as among the antient Assyrians and other nations, who upon such solemnities made a great noise with horns and trumpets, and used them to drink out of at their solemn entertainments.

The Oldenburg horn is of pure silver gilt with gold, weighs about four pounds, and is curiously enamelled with green and purple colours. The Danish antiquaries tell many fabulous stories of this horn, which are not worth repeating; and as to what they say of its being given to Otho, earl of Oldenburg, in the year 982, it is plain it cannot be of that date, for the figures and characters on the outside are modern; which however, with the enamelling and other ornaments, are of excellent workmanship, and make it a very fine and valuable curiosity.

On the antient Custom of deciding Causes by a Duel.*

IT appears that a duel was allowed to plaintiff and defendant, in causes that could not be decided otherwise. This method was so generally made use of, to terminate the differences between noblemen, that even ecclesiastics and monks were not dispensed from the observance of it. But lest they should pollute with blood, hands dedicated to the offering of a pure sacrifice, they were obliged to get a man to fight in their stead. None were excused the observance of this cruel and extravagant law, but women, the sick, the maimed, young persons under twenty, and old men above sixty. It was ordered at first, in all causes, as well criminal as civil; and afterwards confined to those cases which related to honour, or to a capital crime. This custom came from the North: the Burgundians had erected it into a law; and the French adopted it at their entrance into Gaul. Religion and reason long made useless efforts to bring about its abrogation; it supported itself during almost twelve centuries, in spite of the thunders of the Vatican. Some are of opinion, that the combat between Jarnac and Chataigneraie, before Henry the second, was the last famous duel fought in France by public authority: this is a mistake, for

* From Velly's *History of France lately published.*

we read in the history of the nobility of the county of Venaissin, that Honore d'Albert, lord of Luines, fought in an inclosure at the wood of Vincennes, in the presence of King Charles IX. and his whole court, against captain Panier, who reproached him with the suspicion that was entertained of him, in the affair of Mole and Coconas. The champion of Luines had the whole honour of the combat; he killed his enemy, whom a thousand valiant actions had rendered formidable.

The form of this extraordinary procedure deserves the attention of the curious, and suggests strange reflections upon human caprice. The accuser and the accused threw down a pledge, which the judge took up: this was most commonly a glove. Immediately hereupon the two combatants were sent to prison, or closely guarded. After this, they could make no accommodation, without the consent of the judge. It was the lord of high jurisdiction that fixed the day for the duel, assigned the field, and furnished the combatants with arms. Whilst they were carried to the field, with fifes playing, and trumpets sounding, a priest blessed them with great ceremony. The combat began by the lie being given, and returned on both sides. By insensible degrees, the parties grew mild; and forgetting that they were going to cut each other's throats, they repeated some pious prayers, made open profession of their faith, and then engaged. Victory decided the innocence of the conqueror, or the

validity of the right he supported. It is thus that the representation between grandchildren and uncles is become a fundamental law in Germany. The champion who supported it, had the advantage when Otho the First was emperor. We however, see an example to the contrary in the annals of Spain. The minds of men were divided, with regard to the Roman and Mozarabic ritual, nobody knowing to which the preference was due: two champions were accordingly nominated; he that entered the lists for the Mozarabic ritual, was conqueror; yet the Roman ritual prevailed. The punishment of the conquered, was the same that was incurred by the person accused, if convicted. The champion vanquished, underwent the same fate. They were both ignominiously dragged out of the camp, and either hanged upon a gibbet, or burned, according to the enormity of the crime.

*On the religious Foundations in France, established about the seventh century *.*

THERE were in ancient days many classes of monks or hermits. Some lived in a community under the conduct of a superior: these were the Cenobites. Others, excited by the desire of attaining to greater perfection, retired to the most dismal solitudes: these were the Hermits or Ancho-rites. Some wandered from province to province to visit the holy

* From VELLÉY'S *History of France*.

places, or to improve by conversing with persons famous for their piety; these were called Pilgrims. Others built cells in the midst of cities, or shut themselves up in the most solitary caverns; these were called Recluse. There were also societies of three or four persons, who lived together in the practice of all the virtues, without superiors, without laws, and without vows. They all were employed in some useful and laborious work: most of them distributed their effects to the poor: they were not however obliged to renounce them: even the laws did not deprive them of those effects, when they returned to the world: but such a return was looked upon as a desertion.

The pious profusion of our ancestors shines not only in the foundation of monasteries, but in the donations which they incessantly bestowed upon them, and in the many immunities that they granted them. Every abbey had its treasure, which kings and noblemen, in emulation of each other, endeavoured to enrich with a thousand precious gifts. These were generally girdles, shoulder-belts, vessels of value, rich habits, inlaid with gold and precious stones; and, in fine, moveables, more remarkable for their being scarce than useful. The monks preserved them with particular care, as well for the honour of the convent, as for that of their benefactors. The charters, which contained the enumeration of their privileges, they preserved with still greater care, and even sometimes were so rash as to enlarge them. They were exempted by our kings from paying contributions for their

lands, imposts for their provisions, from lodging the king's retinue, from new-years gifts, and the fees of justice; these were certain duties paid to the judges at all the places where they went to hold their sessions. So many precautions did not yet secure to them full possession; the bishops had it in their power to seize upon all that belonged to them. The ancient canons gave them the disposal of all the offerings that were made to the churches of their diocese. A certain sum was due to them for the benediction of the holy unction, another for the consecration of the altar, another for their visits, and sometimes even for ordinations. Our religious monarchs engaged them to renounce all their rights, in favour of the monasteries which they founded: the prelates even bound themselves not to enter the convents, except in circumstances in which the abbot had not sufficient credit to make himself obeyed.

It was always the bishop of the diocese, assisted by other prelates of the provinces, that granted this species of exemption. The first and most ancient is that which was given to the abbeys of St. Croix and St. Vincent, by St. Germain, whose name it now goes by. It is upon such an example that St. Dennis, Corbie, Lerins, Luxeuil, St. Maurice in Chablais, and St. Vandrille, were withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the ordinary; the hierarchy lending its authority to destroy itself. Pope Deodatus acknowledges, that these immunities are real abuses; yet in the very bull, wherein he says that they are contrary to the holy

canons,

canons, he confirms all the privileges of St. Martin of Tours; if, however, we can call that a privilege, which gives a mortal wound to the perfection of the monastic state, the vital parts of which are obedience and humility.

Be that as it may, the government derived great advantages from so many pious establishments. In religion they have produced saints, they were schools of virtue; they have given historians to posterity, by preserving the records of the nation; they have furnished useful citizens to the state; and it is to their industry, that France owes a great part of its fertility. The kingdom was ravaged by the frequent incursions of barbarians: there was nothing to be seen on all sides but withered plains, vast forests, heath and marshes. People thought they gave very little, when they yielded up to the monks tracts of land that were of no value; as much land was given them as they were able to cultivate. These holy penitents did not consecrate themselves to God to live a life of idleness; they cleared the ground, drained it, sowed in it, planted, and built upon it: heaven blessed so pious a work: interest had no share in their labours: and they lived with the utmost frugality. The greatest part of what they got was employed in the relief of the poor. Uncultivated and desert solitudes became delightful and fertile plains. There were abbeys so rich that they were able to raise a little army; for this reason, the abbots were afterward in-

vited to the assemblies of the field of Mars.

*An ACCOUNT of the old ENGLISH
DRESSES and FASHIONS of the
Times *.*

IN the reign of Richard II. the peaks, or tops, of shoes and boots were worn of so enormous a length, that they were tied to the knees. A law was made in the same reign, to limit them to two inches. The variety of dresses worn in the reign of Henry VIII. may be concluded from the print of the naked Englishman, holding a piece of cloth and a pair of shears, in *Borde's Introduction to Knowledge*. The dress of the king and the nobles, in the beginning of this reign, was not unlike that worn by the yeomen of the guard at present. This was probably aped by inferior persons. It is recorded, that Anne Bullen wore yellow mourning for Catharine of Arragon.

As far as I have been able to trace the growth of the beard from portraits, and other remains of antiquity, I find it never flourished more in England, than in the century preceding the Norman conquest. That of Edward the Confessor was remarkably large, as appears from his seal in *Speed's Theatre of Great-Britain*. After the Conqueror took possession of the kingdom, beards became unfashionable, and were probably looked upon as badges of disloyalty, as the Normans wore only whif-

* From Granger's *Biographical History of England*.

kers. It is said, that the English spies took those invaders for an army of priests, as they appeared to be without beards.

At the conclusion of Mary's reign, Dr. Granger proceeds in these words: I have before observed, that much the same kind of dress, which was worn by Henry VIII. in the former part of his reign, is now worn by the yeomen of the guard. It is no less remarkable, that the most conspicuous and distinguishing part of a cardinal's habit, which has been banished from England ever since the death of cardinal Pole, is also now worn by the lowest order of females, and is called a cardinal. I take the reign of Mary to be the æra of ruffs and farthingales, as they were first brought hither from Spain. Howel tells us in his letters, that the Spanish word for a farthingale, literally translated signifies cover-infant, as if it was intended to conceal pregnancy. It is, perhaps, of more honourable extraction, and might signify cover-infanta.

A blooming virgin in this age seems to have been more solicitous to hide her skin, than a rivelled old woman is at present. The very neck was generally concealed; the arms were covered quite to the wrists; the petticoats were worn long, and the head geer, or coiffure, close; to which was sometimes fastened a light veil, which fell down behind, as if intended occasionally to conceal even the face.

If I may depend on the authority of engraved portraits, the beard extended and expanded itself more during the short reigns of Edward VI. and Mary, than

from the Conquest to that period. Bishop Gardiner has a beard long and streaming like a comet. The beard of cardinal Pole is thick and bushy; but this might possibly be Italian. The patriarchal beard, as I find it in the tapestries of those times, is both long and large; but this seems to have been the invention of the painters who drew the Cartoons. This venerable appendage to the face was formerly greatly regarded. Tho' learned authors have written for and against almost every thing, I never saw any thing written against the beard. The pamphlets on the *Unloveliness of Love-locks, and the Mischief of long Hair*, made much noise in the kingdom, in the reign of Charles I.

At the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, Dr. Granger makes the following remarks: We are informed by Hentzner, that the English, in the reign of Elizabeth, cut the hair close on the middle of the head, but suffered it to grow on either side.

As it is usual in dress, as in other things, to pass from one extreme to another, the large jutting coat became quite out of fashion in this reign, and a coat was worn resembling a waistcoat.

The mens ruffs were generally of a moderate size, the womens bore a proportion to their farthingales, which were enormous.

We are informed, that some beaux had actually introduced long swords, and high ruffs, which approached the royal standard. This roused the jealousy of the queen, who appointed officers to break every man's sword, and to clip all ruffs which were beyond a certain length.

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The breeches, or, to speak more properly, drawers, fell far short of the knees, and the defect was supplied with long hose, the tops of which were fastened under the drawers.

William earl of Pembroke was the first who wore knit stockings in England, which were introduced in this reign. They were presented to him by William Rider, an apprentice near London bridge, who happened to see a pair brought from Mantua, at an Italian merchant's in the city, and made a pair exactly like them.

Edward Vere, the seventeenth earl of Oxford, was the first that introduced embroidered gloves and perfumes into England, which he brought from Italy. He presented the Queen with a pair of perfumed gloves, and her portrait was painted with them upon her hands.

At this period was worn a hat of a singular form, which resembled a close-stool pan with a broad brim. Philip II. in the former reign, seems to wear one of these utensils upon his head, with a narrower brim than ordinary, and makes at least as grotesque an appearance, as his countryman Don Quixote with the barber's basin.

The Rev. Mr. John More, of Norwich, one of the worthiest clergymen in the reign of Elizabeth, gave the best reason that could be given, for wearing the longest and largest beard of any Englishman of his time; namely, that no act of his life might be unworthy of the gravity of his appearance: I wish as good a reason could always have been assigned for wearing the longest hair, and the longest or largest wig.

As the queen left no less than three thousand different habits in her wardrobe when she died, and was possessed of the dresses of all countries, it is somewhat strange that there is such an uniformity of dress in her portraits, and that she should take a pleasure in being loaded with ornaments.

At this time the stays, or bodices, were worn long waisted. Lady Hunston, the foremost of the ladies in the procession to Hunston-house, appears with a much longer waist than those that follow her. She might possibly have been a leader of the fashion, as well as of the procession.

At the end of the reign of Charles I. Dr. Granger proceeds as follows: in this reign, the hat continued to be worn with much such a sort of crown as that described in the reign of Elizabeth; but the brim was extended to a reasonable breadth. Hats inclining to a cone, a figure very ill adapted to the human head, occur in the portraits of this time.

The hair was worn low on the forehead, and generally unparted; some wore it very long, others of a moderate length. The king, and consequently many others, wore a love-lock on the left side, which was considerably longer than the rest of the hair. The unseemliness of this fashion occasioned Mr. Prynne to write a book in quarto, against love-locks.

The beard dwindled very gradually under the two Charles's till it was reduced to a slender pair of whiskers. It became quite extinct in the reign of James II. as if its fatality had been connected with that of the house of Stuart.

The ruff, which of all fantastic modes

moder maintained its possession the longest, was worn for some time after the accession of Charles; but it had almost universally given place to the falling band, when Vandycke was in England.

Slashed doublets, doublets with slit sleeves, and cloaks, were much in fashion.

Trunk breeches one of the most monstrous singularities of dress ever seen in this, or any other age, were worn in the reigns of James and Charles I.

The points, which formerly used to be seen hanging about the waist, are seen dangling at the knees, in some of the portraits of this period.

Little flimsy Spanish leather boots, and spurs, were much worn by gentlemen of fashion. It was usual for the beaux in England and France, to call for their boots, and some think their spurs too, when they were going to a ball, as they very rarely wore the one without the other.

Mr. Peck, the antiquarian, informs us, that he had in his possession a whole length portrait of Charles, the dress of which he thus describes: 'He wore a falling band, a short green doublet, the arm-parts toward the shoulder, wide, and slashed; zig zag turned up ruffles; very long green breeches, (like a Dutchman) tied far below the knee, with long yellow ribbands: red stockings, great shoes-roses, and a short red cloak, lined with blue, with a star on the shoulder.'

Ladies wore their hair low on the forehead, and parted in small ringlets. Many wore it curled like a peruke, and some braided

and rounded in a knot, on the top of the crown. They frequently wore strings of pearls in their hair. Ear-rings, necklaces, bracelets, and other jewels, were also much worn.

Laced handkerchiefs, resembling the large falling band worn by the men, were in fashion among the ladies: this article of dress has been lately revived, and called a Vandycke.

Many ladies, at this period, are painted with their arms and their bosoms bare: and there is no doubt but they sometimes went with those parts exposed.

Cowley, in his discourse Of Greatness, censures some enormities in the dress of his time, in the following terms: 'Is any thing more common than to see our ladies of quality wear such high shoes as they cannot walk in without one to lead them? and a gown as long again as their body; so that they cannot stir to the next room, without a page or two to hold it up.'

The citizens wives, in this reign, seem to have had their domestic sumptuary laws, and to have adopted the frugal maxims of their husbands. There appears, from Hollar's habits, to have been a much greater disparity in point of dress betwixt them, and the ladies of quality, than betwixt the former, and the wives of our present yeomanry.

The dress of religion gave the highest offence to some gloomy zealots in this reign, who were determined to strip her of her white robe, to ravish the ring from her finger, to despoil her of every ornament, and cloath her only in black.

It appears by the broad seal of Charles II. in Sandford, dated 1653, that he wore long hair and whiskers. It also appears, from the prints of him in Sir William Lower's account of his entertainment at the Hague the same year, that he sometimes wore a large cravat, and at other times, a long falling band with tassels. His ruffles were large, his doublet short, his boots were also short, with large tops, his hair long, with a lock on the right side much longer than the rest.

Mr. Benlowes, in his *Theoplila*, published 1652, has given us a print of a man of mode. In his hat, the brim of which is extended horizontally, is a large feather: it inclines much to the right side, as if it were falling off his head. His hair is very long, his ruffles are double, his doublet reaches no lower than the waistband of his breeches: his sword is enormous, and suspended to a belt, which comes over his right shoulder; his breeches are large, with puffs like small blown bladders, quite round the knees; his boots are very short, with fringed tops, which are near as ample in their dimensions as the brim of his hat. It appears from the same author, that black patches were sometimes worn by the beaux at the time of the interregnum. Short hair, short bands, short cloaks, and long visages, frequently occur in the portraits of this period.

Mr. Benlowes has also given us prints of two ladies, by the hand of Hollar; one in a summer, and the other in a winter dress. The former is without a cap, has her hair combed like a wig, except

that which grows on the crown of the head, which is nicely braided and rounded in a knot. Her neck-handkerchief is surrounded with a deep scalloped lace, and her cuffs are laced much in the same manner. The sleeves of her gown have many slashes, through which her linen is very conspicuous: her fan is of the modern make. The latter is represented in a close black hood, and a black mask, which just conceals her nose. She wears a sable tippet, and holds a large muff of the same kind, which entirely hides her arms.

The Monmouth, or military cock of the hat, was much worn in this reign, (*i. e.* Charles II.) and continued a considerable time in fashion.

The perriwig, which had been long used in France, was introduced into England soon after the Restoration.

There is a tradition, that the large black wig which Dr. R. R. bequeathed, among other things of much less consideration, to the Bodleian library, was worn by Charles II.

Some men of tender consciences, were greatly scandalized at this article of dress, as equally indecent with long hair, and more culpable, because more unnatural. Many preachers inveighed against it in their sermons, and cut their hair shorter, to express their abhorrence of the reigning mode.

It was observed, that a perriwig procured many persons a respect, and even veneration, which they were strangers to before, and to which they had not the least claim from their personal merit. The judges,

judges, and physicians, who thoroughly understood this magic of the wig, gave it all the advantage of length, as well as size.

The extravagant fondness of some men for this unnatural ornament, is scarce credible: I have heard of a country gentleman who employed a painter to place perriwigs upon the heads of several of Vandycke's portraits.

Mr Wood informs us, that Nath. Vincent D. D. chaplain in ordinary to the king, preached before him at Newmarket in a long perriwig, and Holland sleeves, according to the then fashion for gentlemen, and that his majesty was so offended at it, that he commanded the duke of Monmouth, chancellor to the university of Cambridge, to see the statutes concerning decency of apparel put in execution; which was done accordingly.

The lace neckcloth became in fashion in this, and continued to be worn in the two following reigns.

Open sleeves, pantaloons, and shoulder-knots, were also worn at this period, which was the æra of shoe-buckles; but ordinary people, and such as affected plainness in their garb, continued for a long time after, to wear strings in their shoes.

The clerical habit, which before it is grown rusty, is a very decent dress, seems not to have been worn in its present form, before the reign of Charles II.

The ladies hair was curled and frizzled with the nicest art, and they frequently set it off with heart-breakers. Sometimes a string of pearls, or an ornament of rib-

band, was worn on the head; and in the latter part of this reign, hoods of various kinds were in fashion.

Patching and painting the face, than which nothing was more common in France, was also too common among the ladies in England. But what was much worse, they affected a mean betwixt dress and nakedness; which occasioned the publication of a book, intitled, *A just and seasonable Reprehension of naked Breasts and Shoulders*, with a preface by Richard Baxter. I scarce ever see a portrait of a lady by Sir Peter Lely, but I think of the following passage of Seneca: *Video seritas vestes, si vestes vocanda sunt; in quibus nihil est quo defendi aut corpus, aut denique pudor possit: quibus sumptis, mulier parum liquido nudam se non esse jurabit.*

It appears from the *Mémoires de Grammont*, that green stockings were worn by one of the greatest beauties of the English court.

If any one would inform himself of the dresses worn by our ancestors, he should make his observations in country churches, in the remote parts of the kingdom, where he may see a great variety of modes of ancient standing. It is not unusual among people of the lower classes for a Sunday coat to descend from father to son; as it is put on the moment before the wearer goes to church, and taken off as soon as he returns home. I have seen several old women in beaver hats, which I have good reason to believe were made in the reign of Charles II.

*The origin of KNIGHTHOOD.**

K Nighthood, or chivalry, was a military institution, founded in the eleventh century. In those times of anarchy and confusion, the great lords were become sovereigns on their own estates, and incessantly waged war with each other. These hostilities obstructed the security of the public roads, to the prejudice of commerce. The several districts were defended by moated castles and towers, which soon became nests of robbers and banditti, (of which frequent mention occurs in this history) who committed violences against the fair sex, and plundered the unwary traveller. These enormous abuses produced an association of noblemen of a humane disposition, who engaged, and even vowed solemnly to maintain the security of the public roads, and to protect the ladies. The association is said to have begun in France, and soon spread throughout Europe. The members were stiled chevaliers, or knights; and, as their numbers increased, they formed themselves into a military, and in some measure, religious order. The dignity of this institution was so very great, that the principal nobility, and even kings themselves, aspired to it. The candidates were obliged to prove their nobility, at least for three generations. At seven years of age they were sent to the house of some illustrious knight, in order to be educated in manly exercises, and trained up

in the apprenticeship of chivalry: till they were fourteen years old, they went by the name of pages or varlets; but from that time they were stiled ecuyers, or esquires, and said to be fortis hors de page. The esquires were also distinguished by the name of bas chevaliers, or inferior knights; whence is derived our word bachelor. The function of the squire, was to dress and undress his lord; to help him to mount his horse; to put on his armour: to carry his gauntlets and shield; in short, to be his armour-bearer. At the age of twenty-one the esquire was admitted a knight, after performing several religious and civil ceremonies. He was obliged to fast some days, and to receive the sacrament. Upon the morning of his admittance he was clad in a white garment (for that of an esquire was brown) and proceeding to the church with a sword about his neck, he presented it to the priest, who returned it him again with his benediction. He then knelt down, with his hands joined, before his lord, who was to instal him. The principal persons that assisted at the ceremony, and sometimes the ladies themselves, helped to put on his armour: one gave him the gold spurs, another the cuirass, another the gauntlets, &c. But most generally the lord, who invested him with this dignity, performed the ceremony himself, by delivering a sword and belt into the hands of the candidate, and touching him thrice on the shoulder with the flat side of his sword, or giving him a blow on the cheek with the

* *From the History of Vandania, lately published.*

palm of his hand, which was the last blow he was to put up with while he breathed. These ceremonies were observed only on solemn installations; but in the field either before or after an engagement, the prince, or lord, only gave the accolade, which was touching the candidate on the neck, or shoulder, with his sword, and pronouncing these, or like words: "In the name of God I make thee a knight." The highest class of chivalry was that of the knights bannerets, who were obliged to prove their nobility by four quarters, and to have an estate sufficient to maintain fifty men at arms. They were all called bannerets, from their privilege of carrying a square banner on the top of their lance. The order of chivalry was in greatest vogue at the time of the crusades; but upon the declension of the feudal system, when kings began to have regular troops, the knights bannerets were no longer of use, and chivalry itself became little more than an empty name.

*An Account of King's College Chapel
Cambridge, and of the Origin of
Free-masonry*.*

THE whole roof the chapel is divided into twelve parts, (answering to twelve windows on either side) the separation being made by eleven principal ribs, corresponding to the number of buttresses on the outside. The space contained between any two of these

ribs is, in the indenture, called a fevery.

This roof is so constructed, that it has no dependence on the walls between buttress and buttress on either side, or between tower and tower at either end of the chapel: the whole weight of the roof being so supported by the buttresses and towers, that if the abovementioned walls should be entirely taken away, the buttresses and towers only remaining, the roof would still continue as firm as it is at this hour.

But what may justly claim an equal degree of wonder is, that those large stones in the center of each fevery, which may be considered as the key-stones of the vault, might at any time be safely taken out without endangering the vault itself. Hence it appears, that this roof is so geometrically contrived, that it would stand firm without either the walls or the key-stones. The mystery of constructing roofs of this kind was the original secret of Free Masons: of whom John Wastell, the master-mason, contracted to employ not less than sixty, for carrying on the works of this chapel—This note I am authorized to add by a gentleman who has made the structure of many ancient Gothic buildings, and particular that of the King's Chapel, his favourite study.

Of Free-Masons, as they were the builders of the chapel, I shall beg leave to give the following account.

A set of foreigners, who called themselves, free-masons (because none were acquainted with the

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* By Henry Malden, chapel-clerk.

secrets of their trade, except such as were free and accepted members of their society) are said to have introduced the art of building with stone into England, about the middle of the seventh century. These were formerly divided into parties or companies. Each company was subject to a master, a warden, and other inferior officers (names retained among free masons to this day): they assembled in one common room, (called a lodge) where they consulted about carrying on the works which their master and warden had undertaken: for they were chiefly employed in raising cathedrals, chapels, and other buildings of the like kind. A company of free-masons (as I am led to conclude from the second and third indentures) to their immortal honour, contracted for building different parts of the chapel. They have left, I am told, in the course of their work, certain marks very well known to all adepts of their society. What these monuments of masonry may be, I am unable to declare: but refer my reader, if he is learned in the secrets of the fraternity, to an inspection of every mysterious token about the building. One thing, however, I shall mention, which has often been observed,—that in the south porch of the chapel there are THREE steps; at the west door FIVE; and in the north porch SEVEN. These are numbers, with the mystery, or at least the sound of which, free-masons are

said to be particularly well acquainted.

It is observable that, notwithstanding the encouragement free-masons received from Henry VI. by being employed in erecting his magnificent chapel, an act passed in the third year of his reign, for suppressing their assembling, or holding chapters, in any part of his dominions; it being the prevailing opinion of those times, that their meetings were held for the sake of making an extravagant addition to the wages of the working-masons. But a favourable report being made to his majesty by some of his nobility, who had been admitted into the brotherhood, he afterwards received them into his favour, and shewed them marks of a particular respect. The act itself remains, I believe, as yet unrepealed.

Mr. Kennedy's Historical Introduction to an Account of the Antiquities and Curiosities of Wilton-house, the elegant Seat of the Pembroke Family, containing a Sketch of the Rise and Progress of the Polite Arts, and the Earl of Pembroke's Plan of collecting his Antiquities†.*

THE slow progress of the arts of sculpture and painting in England is derived from many causes; two particularly deserve attention, these were the existence of the feudal policy for many ages, and our insular situation.

* Wilton-house is situated at Wilton, near Salisbury.

† A work of great merit lately published.

Liberty, the nurse of genius, was only to be found among the nobility, from the establishment of the Saxons to the reign of Henry VII. The lower classes were in the most abject state of vassalage; dependant both for life and fortune on the nod of some haughty baron. The learning of those times was confined within very narrow limits; the poorer sort were totally ignorant of letters, and the highest attainments of the clergy were to be able to read their breviary, and the legendary lives of their saints.

These impediments, resulting from our political constitution were further augmented by our insular situation, which excluded us from the advantages, which might have been expected from a free intercourse with continental nations. We, for the same reason, retained longer our barbarism and national prejudices, and seemed, as it were, shut out from improvement, while other nations were advancing fast in it.

After the coming in of the Normans, a communication was opened with the continent, and such architecture, painting and statuary as was then practised in France, were introduced here. As for the first, our cathedrals are beautiful monuments of the taste of those ages. The number of finely illuminated manuscripts shews painting was carried to tolerable perfection, and many images of kings and saints, still extant, give us no mean opinion of those ancient artists.

In this state things continued till the Reformation, when a revival of the polite arts began in Italy, and gradually advanced

through Europe. The popes Leo X. and Julius II. gave every possible encouragement to genius, and in their time brought painting to perfection in the persons of Raphael and Michael Angelo. Every street, garden, and corner of Rome, was dug up in search of antiques; the foundations of ruined palaces and decayed cities were examined, and multitudes of fine statues, relievos and other curiosities were found.

It was not before the reign of Charles I. who had a taste for the arts, that any collections were formed in this kingdom: his majesty, the duke of Buckingham, and the earl of Arundel, first procured antiques from Italy; others of the nobility and gentry followed their example, and we were in the way to have had very fine galleries, but for the unfortunate catastrophe of that justly lamented prince. The earls of Pembroke had from the reign of Henry VIII. been encouragers of the fine arts, and very early shewed their taste in employing Holbein and Jones in improving and adorning their noble seat at Wilton; however, it was reserved for earl Thomas, to raise it to a degree of magnificence and splendor, beyond any this nation afforded, and which justly made it vie with the most celebrated abroad.

This nobleman possessed every qualification necessary to constitute a real connoisseur and virtuoso, in a very eminent degree. He had an exquisite natural taste, improved by extensive learning, and a fondness for the study of antiques. His conversation with the best Italian antiquaries of his age, cherished his own propensities, and

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he resolved to form a collection on a plan, which would render it valuable, and be always a monument of his superiority in this way.

Before he began to purchase, he confined himself by the following limitations

I. He resolved not to run into all sorts of curiosities, but to buy such as were illustrative of antient history and antient literature. It would have been an endless matter to have endeavoured to acquire gems, statues, medals, relievos, bustos, domestic utensils, and a thousand other antiques, which however cardinal Albani, many of the popes, and the present king of Naples have done. Being on the spot when any of these were found, they had opportunities of completing sets, which no foreigner can possibly have. It was therefore certainly more prudent, to decline what he had no hopes of perfecting, than to fill his house with fragments, which would neither satisfy the ignorant, nor please the connoisseur.

For this reason he rejected Cameos, Intaglias, and the smaller Lares and Penates. Bustos he was particularly fond of, as they expressed, with more strength and exactness, the lineaments of the face. Besides, the viewing of these brought to the spectator's mind the history and glorious exploits of ancient kings and heroes.

Though his lordship had a superior esteem for the antique, yet he greatly praised the grand duke of Tuscany's collection, consisting of above eight hundred modern statues. Lewis XIV. in his estimation, deserved not less applause for his encouragement of French

artists, who made many statues in marble and lead, after originals, and ornamented his gardens with them. These made excellent models for young statuary and engravers to copy.

Lord Pembroke was sensible, that in a few years sculpture would receive but little encouragement, that antiques would be monopolized in a few hands, and therefore was willing, before this event took place, as many copies might be taken, as would disseminate a correct taste, and give a relish for antient beauties. This accordingly is come to pass; at present a sculptor of the best genius can scarce find employment, while every paltry painter, who can sketch a likeness, is carested.

II. No duplicates were admitted. This rule is so necessary for every collector to observe, that it seems strange any should violate it. What purpose can statues with similar heads, trunks, and draperies serve? Undoubtedly none useful; they only occupy spaces which may easily be filled up with other things more valuable

The case is widely different in respect of divinities. As the symbols of many of these could not with propriety be represented together, so more figures than one of them became necessary. To exemplify this; *Venus rising from the sea* cannot be exhibited but in that one action. Suppose her chariot drawn by doves, with Cupid, Mars, Adonis, and a variety of other actions and deities belonging to her, were introduced into one piece, what would be the consequence, but that it must disgust every observer, as all things so crowded universally do? *Venus*

picking a thorn out of her foot, and Venus holding a shell, are as different in attitude, as if they no way related to the same person.

The same reasoning will hold good of Apollo, Hercules, Bacchus, and others, so that his lordship most judiciously multiplied such statues as were explanatory of different attributes; for thereby as it were, a history was made of these divinities.

Altars, urns, and such like came under the denomination of duplicates, for the most part; however, some of them preserved in relievo many curious things, relative to the sepulture, marriages, and other rites and ceremonies of the Greeks and Romans; when this was the case, they were valued and retained. Accordingly here are eleven sorts of interment, and five different altars.

III. Lord Pembroke rejected whole nations, as the productions of Egypt, Hetruria, and Magna Græcia; though he admitted a few to diversify his collection. The numerous and whimsical Egyptian deities, which captivated the eyes of some connoisseurs, were looked on by his lordship with indifference. The hieroglyphics, where-with they are loaded, at present are unintelligible, or if they were known, could communicate nothing worthy attention. He therefore was satisfied with an Isis, Osiris, and Orus, nor was he solicitous about more; though he greatly admired the jaspers and marbles of that country.

Hetruscan figures are not less outré and inexplicable than the foregoing, yet great regard has been paid to the works of that country, and much pains taken to

elucidate them. Some of their vases, particularly, are beautifully relieved and painted; but not easily to be met with, unless in the cabinets of the curious. Even were they to have been procured, they would have answered none of his lordship's views.

For the same reason, the basso relievos of Valetta, who lived in Magna Græcia, (the kingdom of Naples) were not purchased, tho' ancient, because sculpture did not flourish in that country, till after its decline in Greece. There were but little hopes of finding valuable pieces there, especially as we know the Romans pillaged all the neighbouring kingdoms to adorn their capital.

IV. Even works of the best ages were bought with limitations. As images were objects of adoration with the heathens from the earliest times, they consequently were multiplied, each family having many, and the temples great numbers. To this religious opinion concerning statues, that they represented the deity under a human appearance, is owing the improvement and perfection of sculpture. Statues at the beginning, were as gross as men's conceptions, being little better than rude stones and blocks without shape. As politeness and improvement advanced, they entertained more becoming ideas of the divine nature, and the only means they had of expressing them suitably, were to exhibit them under those appearances most esteemed among men.

Thus beauty, or a just conformation of features, with a complexion suited to the climate, has always and ever will claim the love and admiration of the beholder,

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holder. Hence the most beauteous persons were the models for their gods and goddesses, and the closer they followed the original, the nearer they approached to perfection. His lordship observed, that this perfection was not to be expected in the antient productions of the Grecian artists, it was a work of time, advanced but slowly, and was confined, in some measure, to a particular epoch.

Nothing does more honour to lord Pembroke's taste than confining his choice to the best ages. If we consider at that time the civil establishment in each state was settled, as well as their manner of conducting wars; that these were transmitted to us with accuracy by the celebrated pens of those days, and consequently that the artists and writers mutually illustrated each other, which could not be the case with obscure ages; when these considerations are laid together, we shall clearly see, that these restrictions were not the effect of caprice, but of an intimate knowledge of the subject.

Athens, at the beginning of the first Peloponnesian war, had attained great power and opulence. Pericles who then had the management of affairs, was resolved to make his city as superior to others in its buildings and ornaments, as his citizens were in letters and elegance. We need not doubt how transcendent these were, when Phidias had the direction of them:—that Phidias, whose statue of Olympian Jove was esteemed such a miracle of art, that the sculptor was supposed to have had a revelation of the supreme deity, to be able to design and execute so amazing a performance.

The mentioning this statue suggests a remark which will be found useful to those not well acquainted with antient manners and opinions. It is not to pronounce pre-emptorily on the comparative merit of either sculpture or painting from the dress, air, or attitudes of the subjects. For instance, naked figures were highly prized by the Greeks, because the beauty and symmetry of the parts were shewn to greater advantage. The warmth of the eastern climate made the inhabitants go very slightly clothed, and in the heats of summer with scarce any covering at all. None of the indelicate ideas, which we who live so far northward have, were then annexed to nakedness. Moral decency could not be violated, for this decency is not innate, but results from the sentiments of mankind, modified by the climate: so that what bears the character of turpitude in one country, very often has the opposite in another.

This observation is the more necessary, as many unthinking persons have represented the Greeks as wanton and lascivious, because they made their figures naked; whereas the very opposite is true. Morality, legislation, and unaffected virtue were never better taught and practised, than in the writings and examples of Socrates, Plato, Xenophon, and the philosophers of those times.

Olympian Jupiter was made with a thick beard and head of hair. The ancient statues and busts exhibit these appearances. We who have different customs can entertain no conception how these could be the marks of divinity and importance; yet were

we to travel into the Levant, and farther eastward, we should find the same notions of sanctity and veneration connected with a flowing beard, as the antients had of it two thousand years ago.

The colossal Hercules in this collection is beyond any thing we know, for magnitude and strength; and yet modern discoveries inform us of some men above his size, which is seven feet: but even if none existed, it certainly required a body nothing inferior to the *colossal figure* to undergo the labours the hero atchieved. The antient artists are rather to be commended for having extended the bounds of imagination in such exhibitions.

V. As it was impossible to make a complete collection, solely from the works of the best ages, particularly as his lordship began his late, so it had been want of taste to reject those of the times next succeeding. Neither sculpture, nor any other art, decays at once; there were many performances which came little short of the best ages, and were worthy of being preserved. Those, whose execution was but indifferent, as the basso relievo with the first Greek letters, were yet very curious and of considerable use. The same may be said of the busts of Hesiod and Epicurus; they were worth having, because, according to cardinal Mazarine's catalogue, there were no others of them known.

Inscriptions, which some value so highly, his lordship paid no regard to, when they did not answer some historical or chronological use. Thus the letters on the Egyptian granite column were remarkable as they shewed the ori-

gin of writing in Egypt, and supplied us with some of the letters of that antient alphabet. Under the class of curious inscriptions may be ranked, that on the busto of the Victor, on the sarcophagus of Epaphroditus, on the two basso relievos and the columbarium.

Lastly, no unknown heads were admitted, nor fragments. His lordship's design being, as is apparent from what has been said, to make a collection of antiques not mutilated, he could not, consistently, include any in it which were so. They did very well for statuary to copy, but otherwise were mere lumber. These then were the limitations which the earl of Pembroke prescribed to himself before he purchased antiques: we shall now proceed to give an account of those collections from which he principally made his up.

We before observed, that from the age of Pope Leo X. antiques began to be valued and esteemed as they deserved. From that time they were bought up with avidity; so that in a few years those which were really valuable became exceedingly scarce.

It had therefore been impossible for lord Pembroke, with all the dispositions in the world, to have made a tolerable gallery, but for some incidents, and these were, the sale of those excellent collections of Justiniani, lord Arundel, and Valetta of Naples.

The first, with good reason, was esteemed the largest in Europe belonging to a private person; it contained, with duplicates and broken parts, thirteen hundred different antiques. Justiniani had one hundred and six antique bustos,

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of which seven were duplicates of Homer, and above sixty old heads, unknown and much alike, the best of the latter were purchased by cardinal Albani, who afterwards sold many of them.

The Arundelian collection consisted of one hundred and twenty eight bustos, several basso relievos and miscellaneous pieces, with thirty-seven statues, all whole and in good preservation, many of them as white and beautiful as when they came from the sculptor's hand, being found in vaults and subterraneous places, where no tinging or fouling substances touched them.

The statues were placed in lord Arundel's house, but that not being capacious enough to contain so great a number of antiques, he was necessitated to set up many of them in his garden, contiguous to his house. It is an observation deserving the attention of connoisseurs, though lord Pembroke was the first who made it, that valuable marbles ought, in this climate, to be as little exposed as possible to the external air and the uncertainty of seasons. Because the atmosphere of this island being extremely humid and replete with saline particles, pervades the pores of marble, and destroys their polish as well as substance. He found this fully verified at the Arundelian sale. The statues in the garden, in the space of a few years, were so honey-combed and disfigured by the weather, as to make them little worth, although when first put there, they were in tolerable condition. Among these were fourteen statues, four only with heads. Cicero was known; the rest were clothed like senators,

as Mark-Antony, and the father of Julius Cæsar.

Lord Arundel caused those bodies which had good draperies and no heads, or legs or arms, to be repaired, and they looked very well with such additions. Pallas was furnished with a new head and arm, and was of the same height with the colossal Hercules, when measured to that part of the helmet, where the top of the head was supposed to come. The Egyptian granite column, and the black porphyry pillars, were in this collection, as also a marble pillar as high as the column, but in two pieces.

In a garden beyond the Thames, belonging to the earl of Arundel, were many mutilated antiques; as eight or nine mere trunks, a number of heads not fitting any of the bodies, some of them with noses, chins and lips defaced, besides fragments of hands, fingers, toes, &c. This detail would make one wonder, how his lordship came by such a number of useless fragments; the fact is, what is not uncommon, that for the sake of a few excellent pieces, he was obliged to take a great deal of trash.

Lord Pembroke was exceedingly apprehensive of this: when the Arundelian collection came to be disposed of, lord Arundel's agents proposed to have the whole sold together; but his lordship and other noblemen, who attended, opposed it, and after some time brought the agents to divide it into three parts. 1. Those in the house; 2. Those in the garden; 3. Those beyond the Thames. Lord Pembroke gave considerably more than any one else would, to

have the first lot. Of the second he was willing to buy many, could they have been separated, but the father of lord Pomfret gave an advanced price for them, not to be troubled with the third.

The last parcel found no purchaser until the year 1717, when it was sold to Mr. Waller, grandson of the poet, for seventy-five pounds. Mr. Freeman Cooke took half of it. It was judged that this parcel would have brought more money at Rome, and not improbably, there being always in that city artists engaged in mending and repairing broken antiquities.

The Arundelian marbles were bestowed on the university of Oxford; they had been brought to England at an immense expence from the isle of Paros, and set up in lord Arundel's garden without Temple-bar, from thence, they were removed to Oxford, and placed on the outward wall of the theatre. It is fortunate for the learned world, that Selden published them as soon as they came, for the weather has so injured them, as to render them scarce, legible. This confirms what was before remarked of our climate, which in less than a century destroyed what the warmth and dryness of other places preserved for twenty. The marbles now are in one of the schools.

Lord Pembroke purchased some antiques from cardinal Mazarine's collection, which had that of cardinal Richlieu's incorporated with it. The latter intended to build a fine palace at Richlieu, which he affected, and furnished with niches for above forty statues and as many bustos. Lord Arundel

advised him to buy a furnished palace at Rome, and recommended to him one, with about so many, though not all antiques, many being doctors of the church. The cardinal did so, but soon sold it again, removing however the marbles to Richlieu. Lord Arundel informed him of about eighty bustos, which he had seen dispersed in various parts of Italy, and though duplicates to many of the cardinal's, were yet much finer; these too he bought, and placed on wooden pedestals, adorned with rich gilding, in his palace at Paris. This, which is now called the Palais Royale, he gave to Gaston duke of Orleans.

The duke about this time collected medals as the cardinal did marbles, they were mostly Roman, and became the foundation of the king of France's fine cabinet: Greek ones were afterward's added, chiefly through the industry of Vaillant.

On the death of Richlieu, Mazarine had the antiques within the house given to him; the statues indeed were few, but of the best sculpture. King Charles I. had of lord Arundel many of his statues and busts, which, after he was beheaded, were dispersed abroad, and some of them brought by Mazarine. The cardinal had twenty-six bustos finely cast of brass at Florence, and set up on fineered marble termini.

Lastly, Valetta's collection supplied a few bustos; he had not many, but of the very best workmanship.

Lord Pembroke having thus taken every precaution to make a good collection, we shall find he succeeded to the utmost of his wishes,

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The statue of Jupiter Ammon, with a ram on his shoulders, was taken out of a temple in Thrace, built by Sesostris. This prince seemed satisfied with nothing less than reducing the world under the Egyptian yoke; he warred with success against the Assyrians, Medes, and Scythians: he subdued Phœnicia and Asia Minor, and penetrated into Thrace and Colchis. Herodotus informs us, that in every country he conquered, he left immense columns with inscriptions, as lasting monuments of his victories; this historian himself saw many of them in different places, and Strabo assures us, they remained to his time. If we recollect that no expedition was undertaken without consulting the gods, we shall readily think many images of their deities were carried with them; and Sesostris was, no doubt, as anxious to disperse abroad the Egyptian superstition, as to make the people obedient to his power.

The two Persian statues as termini are very curious. They were dug out of the ruins of a palace in Egypt, in which the Persian kings lived, until Amyrteus, one hundred and thirteen years after Cambyfes returned to Persia. Perhaps there is no where to be found such beautiful remains of these very remote nations, as the antiques just mentioned. It was lord Pembroke's design to form a school of sculpture, beginning at its most early period, and proceeding downward.

The beauty and execution of

the Apollos and Bacchus's in this collection can never be enough admired. It will greatly surprize a modern anatomist to observe how accurately the ancient sculptors marked the origin and continuation of the muscles, especially as we are taught that but little of this science was known before latter ages. If the frame of the human body has more nicely been enquired into, it may be asked, why are not our sculptors superior to those of former ages, which confessedly they are not? The answer is, that enough of anatomy was formerly known, to answer every useful purpose, and further than that, it was trifling. What gave rise to this reflection is the colossal Hercules here; which, though above seven feet high, yet preserves great consistence and harmony; no part is disproportionate to another, nothing offends the nicest eye, and the whole, notwithstanding its magnitude, is as agreeable to contemplate, as if it was of the common size.

Observe by what fixed rules ancient artists worked; the same proportion that this Hercules bears to common statues, the same does Hercules about the die bear to his friend Pæna, who supports him. The latter lived in the heroic times, and was of great strength and large body, yet the characteristic magnitude of Hercules makes him but a dwarf. How is the mind delighted with comparing a Bacchus crowned with vine-leaves, drawn by panthers, and accompanied by his jovial drunken train, with the description of an ancient poet! it heightens the relish for classical learning, as each is a comment on the other. The same
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may be said of the symbols of Mercury, Ceres, Pallas, and the other deities.

Groupes are included under statues; thus that very old one of Saturn holding a child smiling on him, is a good confutation of the barbarity usually imputed to that god. Hercules and Antæus, and Hercules and Achelous give us better ideas of the hero's labours than any description possibly can.

Bustos make the second division of this collection. There are one hundred and seventy-three all on marble termini. Of these fifty-two are finereed, and forty-two of solid marble. Those that are finereed are of the finest antique marble and alabasters, made at Rome for cardinal Mazarine. Some are colossal with inscriptions, and others with agate eyes, and some of copper with one hand. Under bustos are included, bifronts, learned persons, both Grecian and Roman; kings and queens of Greece, Asia, and Africa; Roman emperors, Cæsars, and Augustæ; and divinities, Egyptian, Grecian, and Roman.

The head of Sesostris is as great a rarity, as is any where to be found. Some Italian gentlemen travelling to the pyramids in Egypt, discovered it there, and brought it with them; it is of red Egyptian granite, and the countenance remarkably lively. The antiquity of it is indisputable, and the sculptor will give us no contemptible idea of the artists of that country, in very early times.

We now think it strange, that in the best ages of art in Greece, they made their statues and busts, not of the same materials through- out, but of different. Many were

of marble, ivory, and wood, and of various colours; to us such would appear taudry, yet it pleased their eyes; which evinces, that no general definition of taste can be formed, to suit every country. So far as it regards proportion and harmony of parts, it is universal, but as to fashion, attitude, clothing, and such incidental matters, as do not partake of the essence of art, every nation has its peculiar fancies. Agate eyes in bustos come under this class, and were very common among the antients. It is somewhat deserving attention, that the Romans should, according to the confession of Pausanias, have made bronze statues and bustos before the Greeks. Rhæcus and Theodorus of Samos were the first Grecian artists in this way. They flourished in the time of Polycrates, about the sixtieth Olympiad. Dionicius Halicar, in his Roman Antiquities says, Romulus made his own statue of bronze, crowned by a Victory and drawn by four horses. The chariot and horses were brought from Camerinum, when that city was taken. This happened after his triumph over the Fidenates, in the seventh year of his reign, which, answers to the eighth Olympiad. The inscription on it, according to Plutarch, was in Greek letters, but Dionysius says, they greatly resembled the most antient Greek alphabet.

About the reign of Cræsus, the Greeks worked in all sorts of metals. Theodorus before-mentioned, made for that king, a silver vase, which held six hundred eimers. An eimer is a German measure, containing sixty-four German pints. The first quadriga,

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or chariot drawn by four horses in bronze, which is mentioned among the Greeks, was made by the Athenians after the death of Pisistratus, in the sixty-seventh Olympiad.

The judgment of lord Pembroke in antiques and classical learning, if from nothing else, might be proved by the similitude between the busts of Apollo and Augustus; the faces are so like each other as frequently to be mistaken. Ovid, Virgil, Suetonius, and Martial, expressly inform us, that this emperor had an Apollinean face, that is, so nearly resembling the antique statues of that deity, as to be thought his son. He gave into this flattery; for at a feast in which he and five of his courtiers represented the great gods, and as many ladies the six goddesses, he was dressed with the attributes or symbols of Apollo; and what is more, he affected to have it supposed, and his eyes beamed forth brightness like Apollo's, and was mightily pleased, when he looked fully on any one, if they held down their eyes, as when the sun glares too strong upon them.

The jaspers, alabasters, and marbles, whereof the busts are made, are valuable and beautiful beyond description. So great a number, and in such preservation, are not to be found in any collection; they have constantly obtained the applause and admiration of every connoisseur who hath visited *Wilton*, and always will, so long as true taste and discernment exist.

The third division of this collection consists of relievos both high and low. Du Bois, in his *Reflections*, has made an observation, which it is not easy to ac-

quiesce in. It is, that it requires less genius to be a good sculptor than a good painter. Where is the difference between the design, ordonnance and expression of the famous groupe of the Niobe, &c. in marble, and the same on canvas? Sculpture in some respects will not admit of such deceptions as painting, but in those instances where real genius is concerned, it is capable of them as extensively as the other. The maternal tenderness of Niobe in protecting her children, the terror and amazement in the faces of those that are flying, and the various attitudes of those that are dying, would furnish a subject for the best ancient or modern pencil. It cannot therefore be truly affirmed, more invention, which is the mark of genius, is found among painters than sculptors.

Another remark of Du Bois is better grounded, and as it is curious and relative to our subject, is worth transcribing, "We do not," says he, find by any of the remaining fragments of Greek and Roman sculpture, that this art was perfectly understood by the ancients. Their sculptors could only cut out figures in relievo, perpendicularly down from head to foot, and clap them, as it were, on the ground of the basso relievos, so that the figures which deepened in, receive no degradation of light. A tower which seems to be five hundred paces distant from the fore-part of the basso relievo, to judge by the proportion of a soldier mounted thereon, to the personages placed nearest the edge of the plain, this tower, I say is cut as if it were seen at the distance of fifty paces. We may perceive distinctly

distinctly the joining of the stones, and reckon the tiles of the roof. It is not thus objects present themselves to us naturally. They appear not only smaller in proportion to their remoteness, but they are even confused, when they are at a certain distance, by the interposition of the air.

The modern sculptors, better instructed herein than the antients, confound the strokes of objects which sink into the basso relievo, and thus preserve the rules of perspective. With two or three inches of relievo they make some figures, which appear in full relievo, and others which seem to sink into the deepening. They represent also landscapes thrown ingeniously into perspective by a diminution of the strokes, which being not only smaller, but likewise less distinct, and mixing with one another as they remove farther off, produce the same effect almost in sculpture, as the degradation of colours in a picture. We may therefore venture to affirm, that the antients had not this art in such perfection as we have it at present."

The relievo with the inscription called Boustrophedon, is older than the completion of the Greek alphabet, and was brought out of Peloponnesus, where it was most probably made for a victor in the Olympic games. Statues and relievos were usually erected to those who were conquerors in those games. Cicero says a victory in these sports was not less honourable than a triumph at Rome. If any man merited repeated honours, he was thought to have attained to the utmost felicity that human nature is capable of. To this purpose, Plutarch relates a re-

markable story of a Spartan, who meeting Diagoras, who himself had been crowned in the Olympic games, and seen his sons and grand-children victors, embraced him and said, *Die, Diagoras, for thou canst not be a god.*

Many of our relievos were friezes taken from porticos and temples. The antients always adapted the subjects to the deities. Thus nothing could inspire greater awe for the power and anger of Apollo and Diana, than the dreadful vengeance they took on the family of Niobe. The same propriety was observed in the temples of Jupiter, Neptune, and Bacchus. The modern practice in the Romish church, of adorning their altars with pieces of painting, was common among the heathens: but they had sculptures as well as paintings. Of the former sort is that relief in the stone hall of a child's stealing meat from the altar, and some others.

We shall now give a few remarks on the state of sculpture among the Romans. The age of Augustus was a period in which we are naturally led to look for excellence in the arts. Literature had then attained its summit, and the emperor encouraged men of genius; architecture rather than sculpture seemed to flourish. The greatest part of the Roman sculptors made their apprenticeship in the condition of slaves; when they shewed abilities, their masters improved them with the greatest care; so that an artist in this situation, had a better opportunity of having his talents cultivated, than a freeman in indigent circumstances.

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two connoisseurs, into Greece, to collect all the fine pieces of sculpture which were to be met with, that he might embellish his new buildings at Rome. The poor Greeks, as Juvenal observes, were stript even of their household gods.

*Their rapine is so abject and profane,
They not from trifles nor from gods
refrain;*

*But the poor Lares from the niches
seize.*

If they be little images that please.

STEPNEY.

Hadrian, Marcus Aurelius, and Alexander Severus, encouraged this art, as did their successors, and yet they were never able to rescue it from the degeneracy into which it was falling. We may look upon the busto of Caracalla as the last effort of Roman sculpture. The two triumphal arches erected in honour of his father Severus, the chapters of the columns in the Septizonium in Rome, which were afterwards removed into different churches, sufficiently demonstrated how much sculpture had declined under that prince and his children. The basso relievos of the largest of those two triumphal arches, were done by an indifferent hand. It is natural, however, to suppose they were executed by the best that age produced, were it only out of a regard to the place where they were erected. This was the most considerable part of the city, at the further end of the Forum Romanum, and as we have reason to believe, at the foot of those stairs, destined for ascending to the capitol.

One cannot behold the ruins of

Caracalla's baths without being astonished: there never was a more sumptuous fabric, more loaded with ornaments and incrustations, or which did greater honour to a sovereign by its bulk, than the baths of Dioclesian and Gallienus. The great hall of this edifice is now the Carthusian church at Rome, and one of the porters ledges forms another circular church, viz. that of the mendicant friars of St. Bernard.

When the senate and the people of Rome determined to erect a triumphal arch in honour of Constantine, there was not in all probability in the capital of the empire, a sculptor able to undertake the work. Notwithstanding the respect they had at Rome for the memory of Trajan, they stripped the arch of that prince, of its ornaments, and without any regard to conformity or fitness, employed them in the fabric which they erected to Constantine. This shews what a paucity there was of sculptors, and to what a low ebb the art was then reduced.

What has been advanced is to be taken with some restrictions. There might under the emperors be men of not so much genius as to undertake capital works, and yet be able to execute inferior performances. The great number of beautiful bustos in this collection, seems to be a proof of this. Most of them are of a very fine sculpture, and would not disgrace the best ages of art. We know that a good portrait painter very rarely can execute a landscape or such like, beyond the limits of his natural turn; so to make a basso relievo consist-

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ing of many figures in various attitudes, to give the features expressions adapted to the occasion, and to make an agreeable whole, requires other talents than bare copying nature exactly, which is the principal excellence of any busto.

Among the best pieces of sculpture relating to the Ramans, may be reckoned that by Cleomenes, of Curtius leaping into the fiery gulph. This sculptor was one of

the most eminent of his time, and was sent from Corinth to Rome by Polybius, the celebrated historian, to execute this work; at whose desire history does not inform us; let this be as it may, it is so masterly a performance as does honour to the skill of the artist. The beautiful statue of a Faun looking over his shoulder, was also of his work, and made at the request of a Roman nobleman.

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M I S C E L L A N I E S.

INTRODUCTORY DISCOURSE to
*an Essay on the Writings and Ge-
 nius of Shakespear, compared
 with the Greek and French dra-
 matic Poets. With some Remarks
 upon the Misrepresentations of M.
 de Voltaire.* *

MR Pope, in the preface to his edition of Shakespear, sets out by declaring, that of all English poets, this tragedian offers the fullest and fairest subject for criticism. Animated by an opinion of such authority, some of the most learned and ingenious of our critics have made correct editions of his works, and enriched them with notes. The superiority of talents and learning, which I acknowledge in these editors, leaves me no room to entertain the vain presumption of attempting to correct any passages of this celebrated author; but the whole, as corrected and elucidated by them, lies open to a thorough enquiry into the genius of our English classic. Unprejudiced and candid judgment will be the surest basis of his fame. He is now in danger of incurring the fate of the heroes of the fabulous ages, or whom the vanity of their country and the superstition of the times

bestowed an apotheosis, founded on pretensions to achievements beyond human capacity, by which they lost in a more sceptical and critical age, the glory that was due to them for what they had really done; and all the veneration they had obtained, was ascribed to ignorant credulity, and national prepossession. Our Shakespear, whose very faults pass here unquestioned, or are perhaps consecrated through the enthusiasm of his admirers, and the veneration paid to long-established fame, is by a great wit, a great critic, and a great poet of a neighbouring nation, treated as the writer of monstrous farces, called by him tragedies; and barbarism and ignorance are attributed to the nation by which he is admired. Yet if poets, wits, critics, could ever be charged with presumption, one might say there was some degree of it in pronouncing, that, in a country where Sophocles and Euripides are as well understood as in any in Europe, the perfections of dramatic poetry should be as little comprehended as among the Chinese.

Learning here is not confined to ecclesiastics, or a few lettered sages and academics; every English

* *A work of singular merit, lately published.*

gentleman has an education, which gives him an early acquaintance with the writings of the antients. His knowledge of polite literature does not begin with that period which Mr. de Voltaire calls le Siecle de Louis quatorze. Before he is admitted as a spectator at the theatre at London, it is probable he has heard the Tragic Muse as she spoke at Athens, and as she now speaks at Paris, or in Italy; and he can discern between the natural language in which she addressed the human heart, and the artificial dialect which she has acquired from the prejudices of a particular nation, or the jargon caught from the tone of a court. To please upon the French stage, every person of every age and nation was made to adopt their manners.

The heroes of antiquity were not more disguised in the romances of Calprenede and Scuderi than in the tragedies of Corneille. In spite of the admonition given by that admirable critic Boileau to their dramatic writers in the following lines:

*Gardez donc de donner, ainsi que dans
Clelie,
L'air ni l'esprit Francois a l'antique
Italie;
Et sous des noms Romains faissant
notre portrait,
Peindre Caton galant, & Brutus
damoret.*

The Horatii are represented no less obsequious in their address to their king than the courtiers of the grand monarch. Theseus is made a mere fighting swain. Many of the greatest men of antiquity, and even the roughest heroes among

the Goths and Vandals, were exhibited in this effeminate form. The poet dignified the piece, perhaps with the name of an Hercules, but, alas! it was always Hercules spinning that was shewn to the spectator. The editor of Corneille's works, in terms so gross as are hardly pardonable in such a master of fine raillery, frequently attacks our Shakespeare for the want of delicacy and politeness in his pieces: it must be owned, that in some places they bear the marks of the unpolished times in which he wrote, but one cannot forbear smiling to hear a critic, who professes himself an admirer of the tragedies of Corneille, object to the barbarism of Shakespeare's. There never was a more barbarous mode of writing than that of the French romances in the last age, nor which, from its tediousness, languor, and want of truth of character, is less to be copied on the stage: and what are most of the parts of Corneille's boasted tragedies, but the romantic dialogue, its tedious soliloquy, and its extravagant sentiments in the true Gothic livery of rhyme?

The French poets assume a superiority over Shakespeare, on account of their more constant adherence to Aristotle's unities of time and place.

The pedant who bought at a great price the lamp of a famous philosopher, expecting that by its assistance his lucubrations would become equally celebrated, was little more absurd than those poets who suppose their dramas will be excellent if they are regulated by Aristotle's clock. To bring within a limited time and an assigned space certain series of conver-

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tions (and more) is that is the perhaps, I do not

I do not gined the laws of drama, tragedy, a poet, from writing. A painter's portion of the anatomy constitute limbs; but exertion the mind form. The body of add the for direction to when one tempted to own rules, to convey vine fire; piece, which man, rendered statue; wood and in the mechanism, preferred kind of these pieces school of thither agree subjects for art, as a for in physics have they learned accommodated by this kind of Mr. Pope's judgment we are not

tions (and French plays are little more) is no difficult matter; for that is the easiest part of every art perhaps, but in poetry without dispute, in which the connoisseur can direct the artist.

I do not believe the critic imagined that a mere obedience to his laws of drama would make a good tragedy, though it might prevent a poet, more bold than judicious, from writing a very absurd one. A painter can define the just proportion of the human body, and the anatomist knows what muscles constitute the strength of the limbs; but grace of motion, and exertion of strength, depend on the mind, which animates the form. The critic but fashions the body of a work; the poet must add the soul, which gives force and direction to its actions and gestures: when one of these critics has attempted to finish a work by his own rules, he has rarely been able to convey into it one spark of divine fire; and the hero of his piece, whom he designed for a man, remains a cold inanimate statue; which, moving on the wood and wire of the great masters in the mechanical part of the drama, presents to the spectators a kind of heroic puppet-show. As these pieces take their rise in the school of criticism, they return thither again, and are as good subjects for the students in that art, as a dead body to the professors in physic. Most minutely too have they been anatomised in learned academies: but works animated by genius will not abide this kind of dissection.

Mr. Pope says, that, to form a judgment of Shakespeare's works, we are not to apply to the rules of

Aristotle, which would be like trying a man by the laws of one country, who lived under those of another. Heaven-born genius acts from something superior to rules, and antecedent to rules; and has a right of appeal to nature herself.

Great indulgence is due to the errors of original writers, who quitting the beaten track which others have travelled, make daring incursions into unexplored regions of invention, and boldly strike into the pathless sublime: it is no wonder if they are often bewildered, sometimes benighted; yet surely it is more eligible to partake the pleasure and the toil of their adventures, than still to follow the cautious steps of timid imitators through trite and common roads. Genius is of a bold enterprizing nature, ill adapted to the formal restraints of critic institutions, or indeed to lay down to itself rules of nice discretion. If perfect and faultless composition is ever to be expected from human faculties, it must be at some happy period when a noble and graceful simplicity, the result of well regulated and sober magnanimity, reigns through the general manners. Then the muses and the arts, neither effeminately delicate nor audaciously bold, assume their highest character, and in all their compositions seem to respect the chastity of the public taste, which would equally disdain quaintness of ornament, or the rude neglect of elegance and decorum. Such periods had Greece, had Rome! Then were produced immortal works of every kind! But, when the living manners degenerated, in vain did an

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Aristotle

Aristotle and a Quintilian endeavour to restore by doctrine what had been inspired by sentiments, and fashioned by manners.

If the severer muses, whose sphere is the library and the senate, are obliged, in complaisance to this degeneracy, to trick themselves out with meretricious and frivolous ornaments, as is too apparent from the compositions of the historians and orators in declining empires, can we wonder that a dramatic poet, whose chief interest it is to please the people, should more than any other writer, conform himself to their humour; and appear most strongly infected with the faults of the times, whether they be such as belong to unpolished, or corrupt taste.

Shakespeare wrote at a time when learning was tinged with pedantry; wit was unpolished, and mirth ill-bred. The court of Elizabeth spoke a scientific jargon, and a certain obscurity of style was universally affected. James brought an addition of pedantry, accompanied by indecent and indelicate manners and language. By contagion, or from complaisance to the taste of the public. Shakespeare falls sometimes into the fashionable mode of writing: but this is only by fits; for many parts of all his plays are written with the most noble, elegant, and uncorrupted simplicity. Such is his merit, that the more just and refined the taste of the nation has become, the more he has increased in reputation. He was approved by his own age, admired by the next, and is revered and almost adored by the present. His merit is disputed by little wits, and his

errors are the jests of little critics; but there has not been a great poet, or great critic, since his time, who has not spoken of him with the highest veneration. Mr. Voltaire excepted. His translations often, his criticisms still oftener, prove he did not perfectly understand the words of the author; and therefore he could not enter into his meaning. He comprehended enough to perceive he was unservant of some established rules of composition; the felicity with which he performs what no rules can teach, escapes him. Will not an intelligent spectator admire the prodigious structure of Stonehenge, because he does not know by what law of mechanics they were raised? Like them, our author's works will remain for ever the greatest monuments of the amazing force of nature, which we ought to view as we do other prodigies, with an attention to, and admiration of their stupendous parts, and proud irregularity of greatness.

It has been already declared, that Shakespeare is not to be tried by any code of critic laws; nor is it more equitable to judge him entirely by the practice of any particular theatre. Yet some criterion must be established by which we may determine his merits. First, we must take into consideration what is proposed to be done by the means of dramatic imitation. Every species of poetry has its distinct offices. The effecting certain moral purposes, by the representation of a fable, seems to have been the universal intention, from the first institution of the drama to this time; and to have prevailed, not only in Europe, but in all

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countries where the dramatic art has been attempted. It has indeed been the common aim of all poetry to please and instruct; but by means as various as the kinds of composition. We are pleased with the ode, the elegy, and eclogue; not only for having invention, spirit, elegance, and such perfections as are necessary to recommend any sort of poetry, but we also require that each should have its specific merit; the ode, that which constitutes the perfection of an ode, &c. In these views, then, our author is to be examined. First, if his fables answer the noblest end of fable, moral instruction; next, whether his dramatic imitation has its proper dramatic excellence. In the latter of these articles, perhaps, there is not any thing will more assist our judgment than a candid comparison (where the nature of the subject will bear it) between his and some other celebrated dramatic compositions. It is idle to refer to a vague, unrealized idea of perfection; we may safely pronounce that to be well executed, in any art, which after the repeated efforts of great geniuses is equal to any thing that has been produced. We may securely applaud what the antients have crowned; therefore should not withhold our approbation wherever we find our countryman has equalled the most admired passages in the Greek tragedians: but we shall not do justice to his native talents, when they are the object of consideration, if we do not remember the different circumstances under which these writers were composed. Shakespeare's plays were to be acted in a paltry tavern, to an

unlettered audience, just emerging from barbarity: the Greek tragedies were to be exhibited at the public charge, under the care and auspices of the magistrates at Athens; where the very populace were critics in wit, and connoisseurs in public spectacles. The period when Sophocles and Euripides wrote, was that in which the fine arts, and polite literature, were in a degree of perfection which succeeding ages have emulated in vain.

It happened in the literary as in the moral world; a few sages, from the veneration which they had obtained by extraordinary wisdom and a faultless conduct, rose to the authority of legislators. The practice and manner of the three celebrated Greek tragedians were by succeeding critics established as dramatic laws: happily for Shakespeare, Mr. Johnson, whose genius and learning render him superior to a servile awe of pedantic institutions, in his ingenious preface to his edition of Shakespeare has greatly obviated all that can be objected to our author's neglect of the unities of time and place.

Shakespeare's felicity has been rendered complete in this age. His genius produced works that time could not destroy; but some of the lighter characters were become illegible; these have been restored by critics, whose learning and penetration traced back the vestiges of superannuated opinions and customs. They are now no longer in danger of being effaced, and the testimonies of these learned commentators to his merit, will guard our author's great monument of human wit from the presumptuous

sumptuous invasions of our rash critics, and the squibs of our wittlings: so that the bays will flourish unwithered and inviolate round his tomb; and his very spirit seems to come forth and to animate his characters, as often as Mr. Garrick, who acts with the same inspiration with which he wrote, assumes them on the stage.

After our poet had received such important services from the united efforts of talents and learning in his behalf, some apology seems necessary for this work. Let it be remembered that the most superb and lasting monument that ever was consecrated to beauty, was that to which every lover carried a tribute. I dare hope to do him honour only by augmenting the heap of volumes given by his admirers to his memory; I will own I was incited to this undertaking by great admiration of his genius, and still greater indignation at the treatment he had received from a French wit, who seems to think he has made prodigious concessions to our prejudices in favour of the works of our countryman in allowing them the credit of a few splendid passages, while he speaks of every entire piece as a monstrous and ill-constructed farce. Ridiculously has our poet, and ridiculously has our taste been represented, by a writer of universal fame; and through the medium of an almost universal language. Superficial criticisms hit the level of shallow minds, to whom a bon mot will ever appear reason, and an epigrammatic turn, argument; so that many of our countrymen have hastily adopted this lively writer's

opinion of the extravagance and total want of design in Shakspeare's dramas. With the more learned, deep, and sober critics he lies under one considerable disadvantage. For copying nature as he found it in the busy walks of human life, he drew from an original, with which the literati are seldom well acquainted. They perceive his portraits are not of the Grecian or of the Roman school: after finding them unlike to the celebrated forms preserved in learned museums, they do not deign to enquire whether they resemble the living persons they were intended to represent. Among these connoisseurs, whose acquaintance with the characters of men is formed in the library, not in the street, the camp, or village, whatever is unpolished and uncouth, passes for fantastic and absurd, though, in fact, it is a faithful representation of a really existing character.

But it must be acknowledged that, when this objection is obviated there will yet remain another cause of censure; for though our author, from want of delicacy, or from a desire to please the popular taste, thought he had done well when he faithfully copied nature or represented customs, it will appear to politer times the errors of an untutored mind; which the example of judicious artists, and the admonitions of delicate connoisseurs had not taught, that only graceful nature and decent customs give proper subjects for imitation. It may be said in mitigation of his fault that the vulgar here had not, as at Athens, been used to behold,

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*Gorgeous tragedy
In scepter'd pall came sweeping by
Presenting Thebes or Pelops' line,
Or the tale of Troy divine.*

Homer's work alone were sufficient to teach the Greek poets how to write, and their audience how to judge. The songs sung by our bards at feasts and merry-makings were of a very coarse kind; as the people were totally illiterate, and only the better sort could read even their mother tongue; their taste was formed on these compositions. As yet our stage had exhibited only those palpable allegories, by which rude unlettered morals instruct and please the gross and ignorant multitude. Nothing can more plainly evince the opinion the poets of those times had of the ignorance of the people, than the condescension shewn to it by the learned earl of Dorset, in his tragedy of *Gorboduc*; in which the moral of each act is represented on the stage in dumb shew. It is strange that Mr. de Voltaire, who affects an impartial and philosophic spirit, should not rather speak with admiration than contempt of an author, who by the force of genius rose so much above the age and circumstances in which he was born, and who, even when he deviates most from rules, can rise to faults true critics dare not mend. In delineating characters he must be allowed far to surpass all dramatic writers, and even Homer himself; he gives an air of reality to every thing, and, in spite of many and great faults, effects, better than any one has done, the chief purposes of the theatrical representation. It avails little to

prove that the means by which he effects them are not those prescribed in any art of poetry. While we feel the power and energy of his predominant genius, shall we not be apt to treat the cold formal precepts of the critic, with the same peevish contempt that the good lady in the *Guardian*, smothering in the anguish of a burn, does her son's pedantic intrusion of Mr. Locke's doctrine, to prove that there is no heat in fire. Nature and sentiment will pronounce our Shakespeare a mighty genius; judgment and taste will confess that, as a writer, he is far from being faultless.

*On the Præternatural Beings of
Shakespeare. From the same
work.*

AS the genius of Shakespeare, through the whole extent of the poet's province, is the object of our enquiry, we should do him great injustice, if we did not attend to his peculiar felicity, in those fictions and inventions, from which poetry derives its highest distinction, and from whence it first assumed its pretensions to divine inspiration, and appeared the associate of religion.

The ancient poet was admitted into the synod of the gods: he discoursed of their natures he repeated their councils, and, without the charge of impiety or presumption, disclosed their dissensions, and published their vices. He peopled the woods with nymphs, the rivers with deities; and, that he might still have some being within call to his assistance, he

placed responsive echo in the vacant regions of air.

In the infant ages of the world, the credulity of ignorance greedily received every marvellous tale: but as mankind increased in knowledge, and a long series of traditions had established a certain mythology and history, the poet was no longer permitted to range uncontrouled through the boundless dominions of fancy, but became restrained, in some measure, to things believed or known. Though the duty of poetry to please and to surprize still subsisted, the means varied with the state of the world, and it soon grew necessary to make the new inventions lean on the old traditions. The human mind delights in novelty, and is captivated by the marvellous, but even in fable itself requires the credible. The poet, who can give to splendid inventions, and to actions new and bold, the air and authority of reality and truth, is master of the genuine sources of the Castalian spring, and may justly be said to draw his inspiration from the well head of pure poetry.

Shakespeare saw how useful the popular superstitions had been to the ancient poets: he felt that they were necessary to poetry itself. One needs only to read some modern French heroic poems to be convinced how poorly epic poetry subsists on the pure elements of history and philosophy: Tasso, though he had a subject so popular, at the time he wrote as the deliverance of Jerusalem, was obliged to employ the operations of magic, and the interposition of angels and dæmons, to give the marvellous, the sublime, and, I

may add, that religious air to his work, which enobles the enthusiasm, and sanctifies the fiction of the poet. Ariosto's excursive muse wanders through the regions of romance, attended by all the superb train of chivalry, giants, dwarfs, and enchanters; and however these poets, by the severe and frigid critics may have been condemned for giving ornaments not purely classical to their works; I believe every reader of taste admires, not only the fertility of their imagination, but the judgment with which they availed themselves of the superstition of the times, and of the customs and modes of the country, in which they laid their scenes of action.

To recur, as the learned sometimes do, to the mythology and fables of other ages, and other countries, has ever a poor effect: Jupiter, Minerva, and Apollo, only embellish a modern story, as a print from their statues adorns the frontispiece. We admire indeed the art of the sculptors who give their images with grace and majesty; but no devotion is excited, no enthusiasm kindled, by the representations of characters whose divinity we do not acknowledge.

When the Pagan temples ceased to be revealed, and the Parnassian mount existed no longer, it would have been difficult for the poet of later times to have preserved the divinity of his muse inviolate, if the western world too had not had its sacred fables. While there is any national superstition which credulity has consecrated, any hallowed tradition long revered by vulgar faith; to that sanctuary, that asylum, may the poet resort. Let him tread the holy ground with

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with reverence; respect the established doctrine; exactly observe the accustomed rights, and the attributes of the object of veneration; then shall he not vainly invoke an inexorable or absent deity. Ghosts, fairies, goblins, elves, were as propitious, were as assistant to Shakespeare, and gave as much of the sublime, and of the marvellous, to his fictions, as nymphs, satyrs, fawns, and even the triple Geryon, to the works of ancient bards. Our poet never carries his præternatural beings beyond the limits, of the popular tradition. It is true, that he boldly exerts his poetic genius and fascinating powers in that magic circle, in which none ever durst walk but he; but as judicious as bold, he contains himself within it. He calls up all the stately phantoms in the regions of superstition, which our faith will receive with reverence. He throws into their manners and language a mysterious solemnity, favourable to superstition in general, with something highly characteristic of each particular being which he exhibits. His witches, his ghosts, and his fairies, seem spirits of health or goblins damned; bring with them airs from heaven, or blasts from hell. His ghosts are sullen, melancholy, and terrible. Every sentence, uttered by the witches is a prophecy or a charm; their manners are malignant, their praises ambiguous, their promises delusive. The witches chaldron is a horrid collection of what is most horrid in their supposed incantations. Ariel is a spirit, mild, gentle and sweet, possessed of supernatural powers, but subject

to the command of a great magician.

The fairies are sportive and gay; the innocent artificers of harmless frauds, and mirthful delusions. Puck's enumeration of the feats of a fairy is a most agreeable recital of their supposed gambols.

To all these beings our poet has assigned tasks, and appropriated manners adapted to their imputed dispositions and characters; which are continually developing through the whole piece, in a series of operations conducive to the catastrophe. They are not brought in as subordinate or casual agents, but lead the action, and govern the fable; in which respect our countryman has entered more into theatrical propriety than the Greek tragedians.

Every species of poetry has its distinct duties and obligations. The drama does not, like the epic, admit of episode, superfluous persons, or things incredible; for, as it is observed by a critic of great ingenuity and taste, "that which passes in representation, and challenges as it were, the scrutiny of the eye, must be truth itself, or something very nearly approaching to it." It should indeed be what our imagination will adopt, though our reason would reject it. Great caution and dexterity are required in the dramatic poet to give an air of reality to fictitious existence.

In the bold attempt to give to airy nothing a local habitation and a person, regard must be paid to fix it in such scenes, and to display it in such actions, as are agreeable to the popular opinion. Witches

holding their sabbath, and saluting passengers on the blasted heath; ghosts at the midnight hour visiting the glimpses of the moon, and whispering a bloody secret, from propriety of place and action, derive a probability very propitious to the scheme of the poet. Reddere personæ—convenientia cuique, cannot be less his duty in regard to these superior and divine, than to human characters. Indeed, from the invariableness of their natures, a greater consistency and uniformity is necessary; but most of all as the belief of their intervention depends entirely on their manners and sentiments suiting with the pre-conceived opinion of them.

A celebrated writer in his ingenious letters on chivalry, has observed, that the Gothic manners, and Gothic superstitions, are more adapted to the uses of poetry, than the Grecian. The devotion of those times was gloomy and fearful, not being purged of the terrors of the Celtic fables. The priest often availed himself of the dire inventions of his predecessor, the Druid. The church of Rome adopted many of the Celtic superstitions; others, which were not established by it as points of faith, still maintained a traditional authority among the vulgar. Climate, temper, modes of life and institutions of government, seem all to have conspired to make the superstitions of the Celtic nations melancholy and terrible. Philosophy had not mitigated the austerity of ignorant devotion, or tamed the fierce spirit of enthusiasm. As the bards, who were our philosophers and poets, pre-

tended to be possessed of the dark secrets of magic and divination, they certainly encouraged the ignorant credulity, and anxious fears, to which such impostors owe their success and credit. The retired and gloomy scenes appointed for the most solemn rites of devotion; the austerity and rigour of druidical discipline and jurisdiction; the fasts, the penances, the sad excommunications from the comforts and privileges of civil life; the dreadful anathema, whose vengeance pursued the wretched beyond the grave, which bounds all human power and mortal jurisdiction, must deeply imprint on the mind all those forms of superstition such an hierarchy presented. The bard who was subservient to the Druid, had mixed them in his heroic song; in his historical annals; in his medical practice: genii assisted his heroes; demons decided the fate of the battle; and charms cured the sick, or the wounded. After the consecrated groves were cut down, and the temples demolished, the tales that sprung from thence were still preserved with religious reverence in the minds of the people.

The poet found himself happily situated amidst enchantments, ghosts, goblins; every element supposed the residence of a kind of deity; the genius of the mountain, the spirit of the floods, the oak endued with sacred prophecy, made men walk abroad with a fearful apprehension.

*Of powers unseen, and mightier far
than they.*

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woods, stalked the angry spectre :
and in the gayest and most pleas-
ing scenes, even within the cheer-
ful haunts of men among villages
and farms,

*Tripp'd the light fairies and the
dapper elves.*

The reader will easily perceive
what resources remained for the
poet in this visionary land of ideal
forms. The general scenery of
nature, considered as inanimate,
only adorns the descriptive part of
poetry ; but being, according to
the Celtic traditions, animated by
a kind of intelligences, the bard
could better make use of them for
his moral purposes. That awe of
the immediate presence of the
deity, which, among the rest of
the vulgar, is confined to temples
and altars, was here diffused over
every object. They passed trem-
bling through the woods, and over
the mountain, and by the lakes,
inhabited by these invisible pow-
ers ; such apprehensions must indeed

*Deepen the murmur of the falling
floods,*

*And shed a browner horror on the
woods ;*

give fearful accents to every whis-
per of the animate or inanimate
creation, and arm every shadow
with terrors.

With great reason, therefore it
was asserted that the western bards
had advantage over Homer in the
superstitions of their country. The
religious ceremonies of Greece
were more pompous than solemn ;
and seemed as much a part of their
civil institutions, as belonged to
spiritual matters : nor did they im-
press so deep a sense of invisible
beings, and prepare the mind to

catch the enthusiasm of the poet,
and to receive with veneration the
phantoms he presented.

Our countryman has another
superiority over the Greek poets,
even the earliest of them, who,
having imbibed the learning of
mysterious Egypt, addicted them-
selves to allegory ; but our Go-
thic bard employs the potent
agency of sacred fable, instead of
mere amusive allegory. When the
world becomes learned and phi-
losophical, fable refines into alle-
gory. But the age of fable is the
golden age of poetry ; when the
beams of unclouded reason, and
the steady lamp of inquisitive phi-
losophy, throw their penetrating
rays upon the phantoms of ima-
ginations, they discover them to
have been mere shadows, formed
by ignorance. The thunderbolts
of Jove, forged in Cimmerian
caves ; the cestus of Venus, wo-
ven by hands of attracting Graces ;
cease to terrify and allure. Echo,
from an amorous nymph, fades
into voice, and nothing more ;
the very threads of Iris's scarf are
untwisted ; all the poet's spells are
broken, his charms dissolved : de-
serted on his own enchanted
ground, he takes refuge in the
groves of philosophy ; but there
his divinities evaporate in alle-
gory, in which mythic and insub-
stantial state they do but weakly
assist his operations. By associat-
ing his muse with philosophy, he
hopes she may establish with the
learned the worship she won from
the ignorant, so makes her quit
the old traditional fable, from
whence she derived her first autho-
rity and power, to follow airy hy-
pothesis, and chimerical systems.
Allegory, the daughter of fable,

is

is admired by the fastidious wit, and abstruse scholar, when her mother begins to be treated as superannuated, foolish, and doting; but however well she may please and amuse, not being worshipped as divine, she does not awe and terrify like sacred mythology, nor ever can establish the same fearful devotion, nor assume such arbitrary power over the mind. Her person is not adapted to the stage, nor her qualities to the business and end of dramatic representation. L'Abbe du Bos has judiciously distinguished the reasons why allegory is not fit for the drama. What the critic investigated by art and study, the wisdom of nature unfolded to our unlettered poet, or he would not have resisted the prevalent fashion of his allegorizing age; especially as Spenser's *Fairy Queen* was the admired work of the times.

An Authentic Account of the Conclave at ROME, and the Proceedings upon the Election of a new Pope.*

THE title of cardinal was formerly common to the presbyters and deacons of great churches in cities. But in the eleventh century, the presbyters and deacons of the church of Rome restrained the appellation to themselves; and as the dignity of the pope increased, so did theirs; the first dawn of this affected grandeur appearing under pope Nicholas II. Innocent IV. at the coun-

cil of Lyons, in the year 1243, gave them the red hat. Boniface VIII. in 1249, the red vestments; and Urban VIII. the title of Eminentissimi, whereas before they were only stiled Illustrissimi. Sixtus V. at the council of Basil, fixed their number at seventy, which is seldom complete; they are divided into three classes: 1. Six cardinal bishops, namely, the bishop of Ostia, dean of the sacred college: the bishop of Oporto, sub-dean; and the bishops of Sabina, Palistrati, Tuscatti, and Albano. These bishoprics may be held with other bishoprics, or archbishoprics. 2. Fifty cardinal priests; and 3. Fourteen cardinal deacons. At present the cardinals are but fifty seven in number, viz. Six of the order of bishops, thirty-nine of priests, and twelve of deacons. The deans of these three classes are called their chiefs. Each of the cardinal-priests and deacons bear the title of a church in the city of Rome. The cardinals insist on precedency before the electors of the Empire, and require to be treated on the same footing as crowned heads. The title of cardinal has no revenue annexed to it; but embassies, protections of Roman catholic nations, governments, archbishoprics, prelacies, and other ecclesiastical benefices, enable them to live in great taste, though not suitable to the rank they assume, more especially when they are of mean extraction, and have no fortune of their own.

The conclave is the place where the cardinals chiefly endeavour to

* From the gentleman's Magazine.

give proofs of their genius and address: the decease of the pope is made known to the people of Rome by tolling the great bell of the capital, firing the cannon of the castle of St. Angelo, and opening the prisons; and to foreign cardinals by circular letters from the cardinal Cammerlingo, who invites them to the approaching conclave.

Till the conclave meets, the Cammerlingo acts as regent; he is attended by the pope's life-guard, and orders all things necessary for the opening of the conclave, which is held in the galleries and some of the anti-chambers of that noble palace, the Vatican, and consists of a number of small rooms, separated by common wooden partitions, and distributed by lot, both among the cardinals then in Rome, and those that are absent. Each usually has two; one for himself, and one for his conclavists, (who are usually people of consequence, and act as secretaries). These little rooms only contain a bed, three or four chairs and a table. On the 11th day after the pope's death, all the cardinals in the city meet in the morning in St. Peter's church, where the mass Sancti Spiritus is celebrated; and after a sermon on the duties to be observed in the election of a pope, they proceed two by two into the conclave, which is then shut up by the governor and marshal, who are appointed upon those occasions, none being let out, except in cases of dangerous illness, till a new pope is elected, and even then the person who leaves the conclave is not allowed to return, but loses his vote. The governor of the con-

clave is always previously chosen by the cardinals; and, together with the marshal, resides at the entrance of the Vatican. Without their express licence no person is suffered to go in or out. Whilst the cardinals sit in conclave, refreshments are brought to the outside of the Vatican and deposited in boxes, which turn round like those usually placed at the gates of convents, so that whatever they contain may be received by the person within. Every conclave is said to stand the apostolic chamber in 200,000 scudi, or according to some in 300,000. Each cardinal orders his conclavists to write down on a slip of paper, the name of the person to whom he gives his suffrage for being elected pope. This is thrown into a chalice, which stands on a long table covered with green cloth, in the beautiful chapel of the conclave, which was built by pope Sixtus IV. Two cardinals appointed for that purpose, successively read aloud the notes, marking the number of votes for every cardinal. He who has two thirds is declared pope; otherwise the scrutiny is repeated till this number is complete. If this manner of election does not take place, recourse is had to another, called Accessus, by which the notes of the former scrutiny being set aside, every cardinal must give in writing his vote to another; and if by this way two thirds do not appear of one mind, there is still another resource called Inspiratio, by virtue of which, such of the cardinals as are unanimous, come out of their cells and call aloud to each other, and openly mention the name of him they fix upon for pope. On this, the

the others, to avoid incurring the displeasure of the new elected pontiff, join in the cry, and thus the election is carried. If this method also fails, the scrutiny begins a new, and the election proves very tedious.

The emperor of Germany, and the kings of France and Spain are allowed to exclude a person proposed for the popedom; but this protest must be made before the complete declaration of the votes for such a person.

It is required that the pope be an Italian, and at least fifty-five years of age; though they seldom elect any one who is not near seventy. When the election is over, the rest of the cardinals pay due homage to the pope elect, who, after a short prayer, declares the name he will bear for the future. The chief of the cardinal deacons then proclaims him to the people, who, on these occasions, wait in great multitudes with eager expectation about St. Peter's Place. The coronation of his holiness with the triple crown, is generally performed about eight days after.

*An Account of the Revival of Letters *.*

THE progress of science, and the cultivation of literature, had considerable effect in changing the manners of the European nations, and introducing that civility and refinement by which

they are now distinguished. At the time when their empire was overturned, the Romans, though they had lost that correct taste which has rendered the productions of their ancestors the standards of excellence, and models for imitation to succeeding ages, still preserved their love of letters, and cultivated the arts with great ardour. But rude barbarians were so far from being struck with any admiration of these unknown accomplishments, that they despised them. They were not arrived at that state of society, in which those faculties of the human mind, that have beauty and elegance for their objects, begin to unfold themselves. They were strangers to all those wants and desires which are the parents of ingenious invention; and as they did not comprehend either the merit or utility of the Roman arts, they destroyed the monuments of them, with industry not inferior to that with which their posterity have since studied to preserve, or to recover them. The convulsions occasioned by their settlement in the empire, the frequent as well as violent revolutions in every kingdom which they established, together with the interior defects in the form of government which they introduced, banished security and leisure, prevented the growth of taste, or the culture of science, and kept Europe, during several centuries, in that state of ignorance which has been already described. But the events and institutions which I have enumerated, produced great

* From Dr. Robertson's *Introduction to the History of the Reign of the Emperor Charles V.* lately published.

alterations in society. As soon as their operations in restoring liberty and independence to one part of the community began to be felt, as soon as they began to communicate to all the members of society some taste of the advantages arising from commerce, from public order, and from personal security, the human mind became conscious of powers which it did not formerly perceive, and fond of occupations or pursuits of which it was formerly incapable. Towards the beginning of the twelfth century, we discern the first symptom of its awaking from the lethargy in which it had long been sunk, and observe it turning with curiosity and attention towards new objects.

The first literary efforts, however, of the European nations in the middle ages, were extremely ill directed. Among nations, as well as individuals, the powers of imagination attain some degree of vigour before the intellectual faculties are much exercised in speculative or abstract disquisition. Men are poets before they are philosophers. They feel with sensibility, and describe with force, when they have made but little progress in investigation or reasoning. The age of Homer and of Hesiod long preceded that of Thales, or of Socrates. But, unhappily for literature, our ancestors deviating from this course which nature points out, plunged at once into the depths of abstruse and metaphysical enquiry. They had been converted to the Christian faith soon after they settled in their new conquests; but they did not receive it pure. The presumption of men had added to the simple and in-

structive doctrines of Christianity, the theories of a vain philosophy, that attempted to penetrate into mysteries, and to decide questions which the limited faculties of the human mind are unable to comprehend, or to resolve. These over-curious speculations were incorporated with the system of religion, and came to be considered as the most essential part of it. As soon, then, as curiosity prompted men to enquire and to reason, these were subjects which first presented themselves, and engaged their attention. The scholastic theology, with its infinite train of bold disquisitions, and subtil distinctions, concerning points which are not the object of human reason, was the first production of the spirit of enquiry after it began to resume some degree of activity and vigour in Europe. It was not this circumstance alone that gave such a wrong turn to the minds of men, when they began again to exercise talents which they had so long neglected. Most of the persons who attempted to revive literature, in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, had received instruction, or derived their principles of science, from the Greeks in the eastern empire, or from the Arabians in Spain and Africa. Both these people, acute and inquisitive to excess, corrupted those sciences, which they cultivated.

The former rendered theology a system of speculative refinement, or of endless controversy. The latter communicated to philosophy a spirit of metaphysical and frivolous subtlety. Misled by these guides, the persons who first applied to science were involved in a
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maze of intricate enquiries. Instead of allowing their fancy to take its natural range, and to produce such works of invention as might have improved their taste, and refined their sentiments; instead of cultivating those arts which embellish human life, and render it comfortable, they were led astray by example, and wasted the whole force of their genius in speculations as unavailing as they were difficult.

But fruitless and ill-directed as these speculations were, their novelty roused, and their boldness interested the human mind. The ardour with which men pursued these uninviting studies was astonishing. Genuine philosophy was never cultivated in any enlightened age with greater zeal. Schools upon the mode of these instituted by Charlemagne, were open in every cathedral, and almost in every monastery of note. Colleges and universities were erected, and formed into communities or corporations, governed by their own laws, and invested with separate and extensive jurisdiction over their own members. A regular course of studies was planned. Privileges of great value were conferred on masters and scholars. Academical titles and honours of various kinds were invented, as a recompence for both. Nor was it in the schools alone that superiority in science led to reputation and authority; it became the object of respect in life, and advanced such as acquired it, to a rank of no inconsiderable eminence. Allured by all those advantages, an incredible number of students resorted to these new seats of learning, and crowded with eagerness into

that new path which was opened to fame and distinction.

But how considerable soever these first efforts may appear, there was one circumstance which prevented the effects of them, from being as extensive as they ought to have been. All the languages in Europe, during the period under review, were barbarous, they were destitute of elegance, of force, and even of perspicuity; no attempt had been hitherto made to improve or to polish them; the Latin tongue was consecrated by the church to religion; custom, with authority scarce less sacred, had appropriated it to literature, all the sciences cultivated in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries were taught in Latin, all books with respect to them were written in that language; to have treated of any important subject in a modern language, would have been deemed a degradation of it. This confined science within a very narrow circle, the learned alone were admitted into the temple of knowledge; the gate was shut against all others, who were allowed to remain involved in their former darkness and ignorance.

But though science was thus prevented, during several ages, from diffusing itself through society, and its influence was circumscribed; the progress of it may be mentioned, nevertheless, among the great causes which contribute to introduce a change of manners into Europe. That ardent, though ill-judged spirit of enquiry which I have described, occasioned a fermentation of mind, which put ingenuity and invention in motion, and gave them vigour. It led men to a new employment of their faculties,

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faculties, which they found to be agreeable as well as interesting. It accustomed them to exercises and occupations which tended to soften their manners, and to give them some relish for those gentle virtues, which are peculiar to nations among whom science hath been cultivated with success.

General Review of Public Occurrences during the Reign of the Emperor Charles V. From Dr. Robertson's History.

UPON reviewing the transactions of any active period, in the history of civilized nations, the changes which are accomplished appear wonderfully disproportioned to the efforts which have been exerted. Conquests are never very extensive or rapid, but among nations, whose progress in improvement is extremely unequal. When Alexander the Great, at the head of a gallant people, of simple manners, and formed to war by admirable military institutions, invaded a state sunk in luxury, and enervated by excessive refinement; where Genchizcan and Tamerlane, with their armies of hardy barbarians, poured in upon nations enfeebled by the climate in which they lived, or by the arts and commerce which they cultivated, they, like a torrent, swept every thing before them, subduing kingdoms and provinces in as short a space of time as was requisite to march through them. But when nations are in a similar state, and keep pace with each other in their advances towards refinement, they are not exposed to the calamity of

sudden conquest. Their acquisitions of knowledge, their progress in the art of war, their political sagacity and address, are nearly equal; the fate of states in this situation, depends not on a single battle. Their internal resources are many and various. Nor are they themselves alone interested in their own safety, or active in their own defence. Other states interpose, and balance any temporary advantage which either part may have acquired. After the fiercest and most lengthened contest, all the rival nations are exhausted, none are conquered. At length a peace is concluded, which reinstates each in possession of almost the same power and the same territories. Such was the state of Europe during the reign of Charles V. No prince was so much superior to the rest in power, as to render his efforts irresistible, and his conquests easy. No nation had made progress in improvement so far beyond its neighbours as to have acquired a very manifest pre-eminence. Each state derived some advantage, or was subject to some inconvenience, from its situation or its climate; each was distinguished by something peculiar in the genius of its people, or the constitution of its government. But the advantages possessed by one were counterbalanced by circumstances favourable to others; and this prevented any from attaining such superiority as might have been fatal to all. The nations of Europe in that age, as in the present, were like one great family; there were some features common to all which, fixed a resemblance; there were certain peculiarities conspicuous in each, which

which marked a distinction. But there was not among them that wide diversity of character and of genius which, in almost every period of history, had exalted the Europeans above the inhabitants of the other quarters of the globe, and seems to have destined the one to rule, and the other to obey. But though the near resemblance and equality in improvement among the different nations in Europe, prevented the reign of Charles V. from being distinguished by such sudden and extensive conquests as occur in some other periods of history, yet during the course of his administration, all the considerable states in Europe suffered a remarkable change in their political situation, and felt the influence of events, which have not hitherto spent their force, but still continue to operate in a greater or in a less degree. It was during his reign, and in consequence of the perpetual efforts to which his enterprising ambition roused them, that the different kingdoms of Europe acquired internal vigour, that they discerned the resources of which they were possessed, that they came both to feel their own strength, and to know how to render it formidable to others. It was during his reign too, that the different kingdoms of Europe, formerly single and disjointed, became so thoroughly acquainted, and so intimately annexed with each other, as to form one great political system, in which each took a station, wherein it has remained since that time with less variation than could have been expected after the events of two active centuries. The progress, however, and acquisitions

of the house of Austria, were not only greater than those of any other power, but more discernible and conspicuous. I have already enumerated the vast territories which descended to Charles from his Austrian, Burgundian, and Spanish ancestors. To these he himself added the Imperial dignity; and as if all this had been too little, the bounds of the universe were extended, and a new world subjected to his command. Upon his resignation, the Burgundian's provinces, and the Spanish kingdoms, with their dependencies, both in the old and new worlds, devolved to Philip. But Charles transmitted his dominions to his son, in a condition very different from that in which he had received them. They were augmented by the accession of new provinces: they were habituated to obey an administration which was no less vigorous than steady; they were accustomed to expensive and persevering efforts, which, though necessary in the contests between civilized nations had been little known in Europe before the sixteenth century. The provinces of Friesland, Utrecht, and Overijssel, which he acquired by purchase from their former proprietors, and the duchy of Guelders, of which he made himself master, partly by force of arms, and partly by the arts of negotiation, were additions of great value to his Burgundian dominions.

Ferdinand and Isabella had transmitted to him all the provinces of Spain from the bottom of the Pyrenees to the frontiers of Portugal; but as he maintained a perpetual peace with that kingdom, amidst the various efforts of his

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enterprizing ambition, he made no acquisition of territory in that quarter. Charles had gained, however, a vast accession of power, in this part of his dominions; by his success in the war with the commons of Castile, he exalted the regal prerogative on the ruins of the privileges of the people. Though he allowed the name of the Cortes to remain, and the formality of holding it to be continued, he reduced its authority and jurisdiction to nothing, and modelled it in such a manner, that it became rather a junta of the servants of the crown, than an assembly of the representatives of the people. One member of the constitution being thus lopped off, it was impossible but that the other must feel the stroke and suffer by it. The suppression of the popular power rendered the aristocratical less formidable. The grandees prompted by the warlike spirit of the age, or allured by the honours which they enjoyed in a court, exhausted their fortunes in military services, or in attending on the person of their prince. They did not dread, perhaps did not observe the dangerous progress of the royal authority, which leaving them the vain distinction of being covered in the presence of their sovereign, stripped them by degrees of that real power which they possessed, while they formed one body, and acted in concert with the people. Charles's success in abolishing the privileges of the commons, and in breaking the power of the nobles of Castile, encouraged Philip to invade the liberties of Arragon, which were still more extensive. The Castilians accustomed to subjection

themselves, assisted in imposing the yoke on their more happy and independant neighbours. The will of the sovereign became the supreme law in all the kingdoms of Spain; and princes who were not checked in forming their plans by the jealousy of the people, nor controuled in executing them by the power of the nobles, could both aim at great objects, and call forth the whole strength of the monarchy in order to attain them.

As Charles by extending the regal prerogative, rendered the monarchs of Spain masters at home, he added new dignity and power to their crown by his foreign acquisitions. He secured to Spain the quiet possession of the kingdom of Naples, which Ferdinand had usurped by fraud and held with difficulty. He united the duchy of Milan, one of the most fertile and populous provinces in Italy, to the Spanish crown; and left his successors, even without taking their other territories into the account, the most considerable princes in that country, which had been long the theatre of contention to the great powers of Europe, and in which they had struggled with emulation to obtain the superiority. When the French, in consequence of the treaty of Cateau Cambresis, withdrew their forces out of Italy, and finally relinquished all their schemes of conquest on that side of the Alps, the Spanish dominions there rose in importance, and enabled their kings, as long as the monarchy retained any degree of vigour, to preserve the chief sway in all the transactions of that country. But whatever accession either of interior authority or of

foreign dominion, Charles gained for the monarchs of Spain in Europe, it was inconsiderable when compared with his acquisitions in the new world. He added there no provinces, but empires to his crown; he conquered territories of such immense extent; he discovered such inexhaustible veins of wealth, and opened such boundless prospects of every kind, as must have roused and called forth to action his successor, though his ambition had been much less ardent than Philip's, and must have rendered him not only enterprising but formidable.

While the elder branch of the Austrian family rose to such a pre-eminence in Spain, the younger of which Ferdinand was the head, grew to be considerable in Germany. The ancient hereditary dominions of the house of Austria in Germany, united to the kingdoms of Hungary and Bohemia, which Ferdinand had acquired by marriage, formed a respectable power; and when the imperial dignity was added to these, Ferdinand possessed territories more extensive than had belonged to any prince, Charles V. excepted, who had been the head of the empire during several ages. Fortunately for Europe, the disgust which Philip conceived on account of Ferdinand's refusing to relinquish the imperial crown in his favour, not only prevented for some time the separate members of the house of Austria, from acting in concert, but occasioned a visible alienation and rivalry. By degrees, however, regard to the interest of their family extinguished this impolitic animosity. The confidence which was natural re-

turned, the aggrandizing the house of Austria became the common object of all their schemes; they gave and received assistance alternately towards the execution of them, and each derived consideration and importance from the others success. A family so great and aspiring, became the general object of jealousy and terror, all the power as well as policy of Europe were exerted during a century, in order to check and humble it. Nothing can give a more striking idea of the ascendant which it had acquired, and of the terror which it had inspired, than that after its vigour was spent with extraordinary exertions of its strength, after Spain was become only the shadow of a great name, and its monarchs were sunk into debility and dotage, the house of Austria still continued to be formidable. The nations of Europe had so often felt its superior power, and had been so constantly employed in guarding against it, that the dread of it became a kind of political habit, the influence of which remained when the causes, which had formed it, ceased to exist.

While the house of Austria went on with such success in enlarging its dominions, France made no considerable acquisition of new territory. All its schemes of conquest in Italy had proved abortive; it had hitherto obtained no establishment of consequence in the new world; and after the continued and vigorous efforts of four successive reigns, the confines of the kingdom were much the same as Lewis XI. had left them. But though France made not such large strides towards dominion as the

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the house of Austria, it continued to advance by steps which were more secure, because they were gradual and less observed. The conquest of Calais put it out of the power of the English to invade France but at their utmost peril, and delivered the French from the dread of their ancient enemies, who, previous to that event, could at any time penetrate into the kingdom by that avenue, and thereby retard or defeat the execution of their best concerted enterprises against any foreign power. The important acquisition of Metz covered that part of their frontier which formerly was most feeble, and lay most exposed to insult. France, from the time of its obtaining these additional securities against external invasion, must be deemed the most powerful kingdom in Europe, and is more fortunately situated than any on the continent, either for conquest or defence. From the confines of Artois to the bottom of the Pyrennees, and from the British channel to the frontiers of Savoy, and the coast of the Mediterranean, its territories lay compact and unmingled with those of any other power. Several of the considerable provinces, which, by their having been long subject to the great vassals of the crown, who were often at variance, or at war with their master, had contracted a spirit of independence, were now accustomed to recognize and obey one sovereign. As they became members of the same monarchy, they assumed the sentiments of that body into which they were incorporated, and co-operated with zeal towards promoting its interest and honour. The power and influence

wrested from the nobles were seized by the crown. The people were not admitted to share in these spoils; they gained no new privilege; they acquired no additional weight in the legislature. It was not for the sake of the people, but in order to extend their own prerogative, that the monarchs of France had laboured to humble their great vassals. Satisfied with having brought them under entire subjection to the crown, they discovered no solicitude to free the people from their ancient dependence on the nobles of whom they held.

A monarch, at the head of a kingdom thus united at home, and secure from abroad, was entitled to form great designs, because he felt himself in a condition to execute them. The foreign wars which had continued with little interruption from the accession of Charles VIII. had not only cherished and augmented the martial genius of the nation, but by inuring the troops during the course of long service to the fatigues of war, and accustoming them to obedience, had added the force of discipline to their natural ardour. A gallant and active body of nobles who considered themselves as idle and useless, unless when they were in the field; who were scarce acquainted with any pastime or exercise but what was military; and who knew no road to power, or fame, or wealth, but war, would not have suffered their sovereign to remain long in inaction. The people, little acquainted with the arts of peace, and always ready to take arms at the command of their superiors, were accustomed by the vast expence of long

war carried on in the distant countries, to bear impositions, which, how inconsiderable soever they may seem, if estimated by the exorbitant rate of modern exactions, appear immense when compared with the sums levied in France, or of any country in Europe, previous to the reign of Lewis XI. As all the members of which the state was composed were thus impatient for action, and capable of great efforts, the schemes and operations of France must have been no less formidable to Europe than those of Spain. The superior advantages of its situation, the contiguity and compactness of its territories, together with the peculiar state of its political constitution at that juncture, must have rendered its enterprises still more alarming and more decisive. The king possessed such a degree of power as gave him the entire command of his subjects; the people were strangers to those occupations and habits of life which render men averse to war, or unfit for it; and the nobles, tho' reduced to the subordination necessary in a regular government, still retained the high undaunted spirit which was the effect of their antient independence. The vigour of the feudal times remained, their anarchy was at an end; and the kings of France could avail themselves of the martial ardour which that singular institution had kindled or kept alive, without being exposed to any of the dangers or inconveniences which are inseparable from it when in intire force.

A kingdom in such a state is, perhaps, capable of greater military efforts than at any other period in its progress. But how for-

midable soever or fatal to the other nations of Europe, the power of such a monarchy might have been, the civil wars which broke out in France saved them at their juncture from feeling its effects. These wars, of which religion was the pretext, and ambition the cause, wherein great abilities were displayed by the leaders of the different factions, and little conduct or firmness were manifested by the crown under a succession of weak princes, kept France occupied and embroiled for half a century. During these commotions the internal vigour of the nation, would have suffered greatly but for re-establishing the authority of the prince; so that it was long before France could turn her whole attention towards foreign transactions, or act with her proper force in foreign wars. It was long before she rose to that ascendent in Europe which she has maintained since the administration of cardinal Richlieu, and which the situation, as well as extent of the kingdom, the nature of her government, and the character of her people, entitled her to maintain.

The Progress of England towards Power and regular Government, during the Reign of the Emperor Charles V. From the same.

WHILE the kingdoms on the continent grew into power and consequence, England likewise made considerable progress towards regular government and interior strength. Henry VIII. probably without intention, and certainly without any consistent;

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ent plan, of which his nature was incapable, pursued the scheme of depressing the nobility, which the policy of his father, Henry VII. had begun. The pride and caprice of his temper laid him to employ chiefly new men in the administration of affairs, because he found them most obsequious, or least scrupulous; and he not only conferred on these such plenitude of power, but exalted them to such pre-eminence in dignity, as mortified and degraded the ancient nobility. By the alienation and sale of the church lands, which were dissipated with a profusion not inferior to the rapaciousness with which they had been seized, as well as by the privilege granted to the ancient landholders of selling their estates, or disposing of them by will, an immense property formerly locked up, being brought into circulation, put the spirit of industry and commerce in motion, and gave it some considerable degree of vigour. The road to power and to opulence became open to persons of every condition. A sudden and excessive flow of wealth from the West Indies, proved fatal to industry in Spain; a moderate accession in England, to the sum in circulation, gave life to commerce, awakened the ingenuity of the nation, and excited it to useful enterprize. In France, what the nobles lost the crown gained. In England, the commons were gainers as well as the king. Power and influence accompanied of course, the property which they acquired. They rose to consideration among their fellow subjects; they began to feel their own importance, and extended their influence in the legislative

body gradually, and often when neither they themselves nor others, foresaw all the effects of their claims and pretensions, they at last attained that high authority, to which the British constitution is indebted for the existence, and must owe the preservation of its liberty. At the same time that the English constitution advanced towards perfection, several circumstances brought in a change in the ancient system with respect to foreign powers, and introduced another more beneficial to the nation. By disclaiming the supremacy and jurisdiction of the papal See, considerable sums were saved to the nation, of which it had been annually drained by remittances to Rome for dispensations and indulgences, or in order to defray the expence of pilgrimages into foreign countries, or by payment of annates, first fruits, and a thousand other taxes which that artful and rapacious court levied on the credulity of mankind. The idea of a jurisdiction different from the civil power, and claiming not only to be independent but superior to it, a wild solecism in government, apt not only to perplex and disquiet weak minds, but tending directly to disturb society, was finally abolished. Government became more simple as well as more respectable, when no rank or character exempted any person from being amenable to the same courts, from being tried by the same judges, and from being acquitted or condemned by the same laws.

By the loss of Calais the English were excluded from the continent. All schemes for invading France became of course chimerical as they had formerly been pernicious.

cious. The views of the English were confined, first by necessity, and afterwards from choice, within their own island. That rage for conquest which had possessed the nation during many centuries, and wasted its strength in perpetual and fruitless wars, at length ceased. Those active spirits which had known and followed no profession but war, sought for occupation in the arts of peace, and their country benefitted as much by the one as it had suffered by the other. The nation, exhausted by frequent expeditions to the continent, recruited, and acquired new strength; and when roused by an extraordinary exigency to take part in foreign operations, the vigour of its efforts were proportionally great because they were only occasional and of a short continuance.

The same principle which had led England to adopt this new system, with regard to the powers on the continent, occasioned a change in its plan of conduct, with respect to Scotland, the only foreign state, with which, on account of its situation in the same island, the English had such a close connection as demanded their perpetual attention. Instead of persecuting the ancient scheme of conquering that kingdom, which the nature of the country, defended by a brave and hardy people, rendered dangerous, if not impracticable; it appeared more eligible to endeavour at obtaining such influence in Scotland, as might exempt England from any danger or disquiet from that quarter. The national poverty of the Scots, together with the violence and animosity of their factions,

rendered the execution of this plan easy to a people far superior to them in wealth. Their popular leaders were gained; the ministers and favourites of the crown were corrupted; and such absolute direction of their councils acquired, as rendered the operations of the one kingdom dependent in a great measure on the sovereign of the other. Such perfect external security added to the interior advantages which England now possessed, must soon have raised it to new consideration and importance; the long reign of Elizabeth, equally conspicuous for wisdom, for steadiness and for vigour, accelerated its progress, and carried it with greater rapidity towards that elevated station which it hath since held among the powers of Europe.

The State of Venice, Tuscany, Savoy, the United Provinces, Denmark, and Sweden, during the Reign of the Emperor Charles V. From the same.

THE Republic of Venice, which, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, had appeared so formidable, that almost all the potentates of Europe united in a confederacy for its destruction, declined gradually from its ancient power and splendor. The Venetians not only lost a great part of their territory in the war excited by the league of Cambray, but the revenues as well as vigour of the state were exhausted by their extraordinary and long continued efforts in their own defence; and that commerce by which they had acquired

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acquired their wealth and power began to decay, without any hopes of its reviving. All the fatal consequences to the republic, which the sagacity of the Venetian senate foresaw on the first discovery of a passage to the East Indies by the Cape of Good Hope, took place. Their endeavours to prevent the Portuguese from establishing themselves in the East Indies, not only by exciting the Soldans of Egypt and the Ottoman monarchs to turn their arms against such dangerous intruders, but by affording secret aid to the infidels in order to insure their success, proved ineffectual. The activity and valour of the Portuguese surmounted every obstacle, and obtained such firm footing in that fertile country, as secured to them large possessions, together with influence still more extensive. Lisbon, instead of Venice, became the staple for the precious commodities of the East. The venetians, after having possessed for many years the monopoly of that beneficial commerce, had the mortification to be excluded from almost any share in it. The discoveries of the Spaniards in the western world, proved no less fatal to the inferior branches of their commerce. The original defects which were formerly pointed out in the constitution of the Venetian republic continued, and the disadvantages with which it undertook any great enterprize, increased rather than diminished. The sources from which it derived its extraordinary riches and power being dried up, the interior vigour of the state declined, and of course rendered its external operations less formidable. Long before the middle of the

sixteenth century, Venice ceased to be one of the principal powers in Europe, and became a secondary and subaltern state. But as the senate had the address to conceal its diminution of power, under the veil of moderation and caution; as it made no rash effort that could discover its importance; as the symptoms of political decay in states are not soon observed, and are seldom so apparent to their neighbours as to occasion any sudden alteration in their conduct towards them, Venice continued long to be considered and respected. She was treated not according to our present condition, but according to the rank which she had formerly held. Charles, as well as the monarchs of France his rivals, courted her assistance with emulation and solicitude in all their enterprizes. Even down to the close of the century, Venice remained not only an object of attention, but a considerable seat of political negotiation and intrigue.

That authority which the first Cosmo de Medicis and Lawrence, his grandson, had acquired in the republic of Florence, by their beneficence and abilities, inspired their descendants with the ambition of usurping the sovereignty in their country, and paved their way towards it. Charles placed Alexander de Medici at the head of the republic, and to the natural interest and power of the family, added the weight and credit of the imperial protection. Of these, his successor Cosmo, surnamed the Great, availed himself; and establishing his supreme authority on the ruins of the ancient republican constitution, he transmitted that,

together with the title of Grand Duke of Tuscany, to his descendants. Their dominions were composed of the territories which had belonged to the three commonwealths of Florence, Pisa, and Sienna, and formed one of the most respectable of the Italian states.

The dukes of Savoy, during the former parts of the sixteenth century, possessed territories which were not considerable either for extent or value; and the French having seized the greater part of them, obliged the reigning duke to retire for safety to the strong fortress of Nice, where he shut himself up for several years; while his son, the Prince of Piedmont, endeavoured to better his fortune, by serving as an adventurer in the armies of Spain. The peace of Cateau Cambresis restored to him his paternal dominions. As these are environed on every hand by powerful neighbours, all whose motions the dukes of Savoy must observe with the greatest attention, in order not only to guard against the danger of being surprized and overpowered, but that they may chuse their side with discernment in those quarrels wherein it is impossible for them to avoid taking part; this peculiarity in their situation seems to have had no inconsiderable influence on their character. By rousing them to perpetual attention, by keeping their ingenuity always on the stretch, and engaging them in almost continual action, it hath formed a race of princes more sagacious in discovering their true interest, more decisive in their resolutions, and more dexterous in availing themselves of every oc-

currence which presented itself than any perhaps that can be singled out in the history of mankind. By gradual acquisitions, the dukes of Savoy have added to their territories as well as to their own importance; and aspiring at length to regal dignity, which they obtained about half a century ago, they hold no inconsiderable rank among the monarchs of Europe.

The territories which now form the republic of the united Netherlands, were lost during the first part of the sixteenth century, among the numerous provinces subject to the house of Austria; and were then so inconsiderable, that hardly one opportunity of mentioning them hath occurred in all the busy period of this history. But soon after the peace of Cateau Cambresis, the violent and bigoted maxims of Philip's government, carried into execution with unrelenting vigour by the duke of Alva, exasperated the free people of the Low Countries to such a degree, that they threw off the Spanish yoke and asserted their ancient liberties and laws. These they defended with a persevering valour, which occupied the arms of Spain during half a century, exhausted the vigour, ruined the reputation of that monarchy, and at last constrained their ancient masters to recognize and treat with them as a free independent state. This state founded on liberty, and reared by industry and œconomy, had grown into reputation, even while struggling for its existence. But when peace and security allowed it to enlarge its views, and to extend its commerce, it rose to be one of the most respectable

as well as Europe.

The territories which have been seized, have followed the course of the main and obvious called at present genius made his formidable

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as well as enterprizing powers in Europe.

The transactions of the kingdoms in the north of Europe, have been seldom attended to in the course of this history. Russia remained buried in that barbarism and obscurity, from which it was called about the beginning of the present century, by the creative genius of Peter the Great, who made his country known and formidable to the rest of Europe.

In Denmark and Sweden, during the reign of Charles V. great revolutions happened in their constitutions, civil as well as ecclesiastical. In the former kingdom a tyrant being degraded from the throne, and expelled the country, a new prince was called by the voice of the people to assume the reins of government. In the latter, a fierce people roused to arms by injuries and oppression, shook off the Danish yoke, and conferred the regal dignity on its deliverer Gustavus Ericson, who had all the virtues of a hero and of a patriot. Denmark, exhausted by foreign wars, or weakened by the dissensions between the king and nobles, became incapable of such efforts as were requisite in order to recover the ascendant which it had long possessed in the north of Europe. Sweden, as soon as it was freed from the dominion of strangers, began to recruit its strength, and acquired in a short time such interior vigour, that it became the first kingdom in the North. Early in the subsequent century, it rose to such a high rank among the powers of Europe, that it had the chief merit both in forming and conducting that powerful league, which pro-

tested not only the Protestant religion, but the liberties of Germany, against the bigotry and ambition of the house of Austria.

An accurate Account of the late violent Eruption of Mount Vesuvius, drawn up by the Honourable Mr. Hamilton, the British Envoy at Naples, who was an Eye-witness of this extraordinary Phænomenon, and communicated by him in a Letter to the Earl of Morton, President of the Royal Society; which Account, has been lately published by the Society, in a Volume of their Transactions.

THE favourable reception which my account of last year's eruption of Mount Vesuvius met with from your lordship, the approbation which the Royal Society was pleased to shew, by having ordered the same to be printed in their Philosophical Transactions, and your lordship's commands in your letter of the 3d instant, encourage me to trouble you with a plain narrative of what came immediately under my observation during the late violent eruption, which began October 9, 1767, and is reckoned to be the twenty-seventh, since that which in the time of Titus, destroyed Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Vesuvius was quiet till March 1767, when it began to throw up stones, from time to time; in April the throws were more frequent, and at night fire was visible on the top of the mountain; or, more properly speaking, the smoak, which hung over the crater, was tinged by the reflection of the fire within

within the volcano. The repeated throws of cinders, ashes, and pumice stones, encreased the little mountain so much, that in May its top was visible above the rim of the ancient crater. The 7th of August there issued a small stream of lava, from a breach in the side of this little mountain, which gradually filled the valley between it and the ancient crater; so that the 12th of September the lava overflowed the ancient crater, and took its course down the sides of the great mountain; by this time, the throws were much more frequent, and the red hot stones went so high as to take up ten seconds in their fall. Padre Torre, a great observer of Mount Vesuvius, says they went up above a thousand feet.

The 15th of October, the height of the little mountain (formed in about eight months) was measured by Don Andrea Pignonati, a very ingenious young man in his Sicilian majesty's service, who assured me that its height was one hundred and eighty-five French feet.

From my villa, situated between Herculaneum and Pompeii, near the convent of the Calmaldolese, I had watched the growing of this little mountain, and by taking drawings of it from time to time, I could perceive its increase most minutely; I make no doubt but that the whole of Mount Vesuvius has been formed in the same manner.

The lava continued to run over the ancient crater in small streams, sometimes on one side, and sometimes on the other, till the 18th of October, when I took particular notice that there was not the least lava to be seen, owing, I imagine, to its being employed in forcing

its way towards the place where it burst out the following day. As I had, contrary to the opinion of most people here, foretold the approaching eruption, and had observed a great fermentation in the mountain after the heavy rains, which fell the 13th and 14th of October, I was not surpris'd on the 19th following, at seven of the clock in the morning, to perceive from my villa every symptom of the eruption being just at hand. From the top of the little mountain issued a thick black smoak, so thick that it seemed to have difficulty in forcing its way out; cloud after cloud mounted with a hasty spiral motion, and every minute a volley of great stones were shot up to an immense height in the midst of these clouds; by degrees, the smoak took the exact shape of a huge pine tree, such as Pliny the younger described in his letter to Tacitus, where he gives an account of the fatal eruption in which his uncle perished. This column of black smoak, after having mounted an extraordinary height, bent with the wind towards Caprea, and actually reached over that island, which is not less than twenty-eight miles from Vesuvius.

I warned my family not to be alarmed, as I expected there would be an earthquake at the moment of the lava's bursting out; but before eight of the clock in the morning I perceived that the mountain had opened a mouth, without noise, about a hundred yards lower than the ancient crater, on the side towards the Monte di Somma; and I plainly perceived, by a white smoak, which always accompanies the lava, that it had forced its

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way out: as soon as it had vent, the smoak no longer came out with that violence from the top. As I imagined there would be no danger in approaching the mountain when the lava had vent, I went up immediately, accompanied by one peasant only. I proceeded as far as a place in a valley between the mountain of Somma and that of Vesuvius, which is called Atrio di Cavallo. I was making my observations upon the lava, which had already reached the valley, when, on a sudden, about noon, I heard a violent noise within the mountain, and about a quarter of a mile off the place where I stood, the mountain split; and, with much noise, from this new mouth a fountain of liquid fire shot up many feet high, and then like a torrent rolled on directly towards us. The earth shook at the same time, that a volley of pumice stones fell thick upon us; in an instant, clouds of black smoak and ashes caused almost a total darkness; the explosions from the top of the mountain were much louder than any thunder I ever heard, and the smell of the sulphur was very offensive. My guide alarmed took to his heels; and I must confess that I was not at my ease. I followed close, and we ran near three miles without stopping; as the earth continued to shake under our feet, I was apprehensive of the opening of a fresh mouth, which might have cut off our retreat. I also feared that the violent explosions would detach some of the rocks off the mountain of Somma, under which we were obliged to pass; besides, the pumice stones, falling upon us like hail, were of such a size as to cause a disagree-

able sensation upon the part where they fell. After having taken breath, as the earth still trembled greatly, I thought it most prudent to leave the mountain, and to return to my villa, where I found my family in a great alarm at the continual and violent explosions of the volcano, which shook our house to its very foundation, the doors and windows swinging upon their hinges.

The noise and smell of sulphur encreasing, we removed from our villa to Naples; and I thought proper, as I passed by Portici, to inform the court of what I had seen; and humbly offered it as my opinion, that his Sicilian majesty should leave the neighbourhood of the threatening mountain. However, the court did not leave Portici till about twelve of the clock, when the lava had reached very near it. I observed, in my way to Naples, which was in less than two hours after I had left the mountain, that the lava had actually covered three miles of the very road through which we had retreated. It is astonishing that it should have run so fast; as I have since seen, that the river of lava, in the Atrio di Cavallo, was sixty and seventy feet deep, and in some places near two miles broad. When his Sicilian majesty quitted Portici, the noise was greatly encreased, and the confusion of the air from the explosions was so violent, that in the king's palace, doors and windows were forced open, and even one door there, which was locked, was nevertheless burst open. At Naples, the same night, many windows and doors flew open; in my house, which is not on the side of the town

town next Vesuvius, I tried the experiment of unbolting my windows, when they flew wide open upon every explosion of the mountain. Besides these explosions, which were very frequent, there was a continued subterraneous and violent rumbling noise, which lasted this night about five hours. I have imagined, that this extraordinary noise might be owing to the lava in the bowels of the mountain having met with a deposition of rain-water, and that the conflict between the fire and the water may, in some measure, account for so extraordinary a crackling and hissing noise. Padre Torre, who has wrote so much and so well upon the subject of Mount Vesuvius, is also of my opinion; and indeed it is natural to imagine, that there may be rain water lodged in many of the caverns of the mountain, as in the great eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 1663, it is well attested, that several towns, among which Portici and Torre del Greco, were destroyed by a torrent of boiling water having burst out of the mountain with the lava, by which thousands of lives were lost. About four years ago, Mount Etna in Sicily threw up hot water also during an eruption.

The confusion at Naples this night cannot be described; his Sicilian majesty's hasty retreat from Portici added to the alarm; all the churches were opened and filled, the streets were thronged with processions of saints; but I shall avoid entering upon a description of the various ceremonies that were performed in this capital to quell the fury of the turbulent mountain.

Tuesday the 20th, it was impossible to judge of the situation of Vesuvius, on account of the smok and ashes which covered it entirely, and spread over Naples also, the sun appearing as through a thick London fog, or a smoaked glass; small ashes fell all this day at Naples. The lavas on both sides of the mountain ran violently; but there was little or no noise till about nine o'clock at night, when the same uncommon rumbling began again, accompanied with explosions as before, which lasted about four hours; it seemed as if the mountain would split in pieces. The Parisian barometer was, as yesterday, at 27. 9, and Fahrenheit's thermometer at 70 degrees; whereas, for some days preceding the eruption, it had been at 65 and 66. During the confusion of this night the prisoners in the public jail attempted to escape, having wounded the jailor, but were prevented by the troops. The mob also set fire to the cardinal archbishop's gate, because he refused to bring out the relics of saint Januarius.

Wednesday 21st, was more quiet than the preceding days, though the lavas ran briskly. Portici was once in some danger, had not the lava taken a different course, when it was only a mile and a half from it; towards night the lava slackened.

Thursday 22d, about ten of the clock in the morning, the same thundering noise began again, but with more violence than the preceding days; the oldest men declared they never heard the like, and, indeed, it was very alarming; we were in expectation every moment of some dire calamity.

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The ashes, or rather small cinders, showered down so fast, that the people in the streets were obliged to use umbrellas, or flap their hats, these ashes being very offensive to the eyes. The tops of the houses, and the balconies, were covered above an inch thick with these cinders. Ships at sea, twenty leagues from Naples, were also covered with them, to the great astonishment of the sailors. In the midst of these horrors, the mob growing tumultuous and impatient obliged the cardinal to bring out the head of saint Januarius, and go with it in procession to the Ponte Maddalena, at the extremity of Naples, towards Vesuvius; and it is well attested here, that the eruption ceased the moment the saint came in sight of the mountain; it is true the noise ceased about that time, after having lasted five hours, as it had done the preceding days.

Friday 23d the lavas still ran, and the mountain continued to throw up quantities of stones from its crater; there was no noise heard at Naples this day, and but little ashes fell there.

In a hollow way, called Fossagrande, made by the currents of rain water, which is not less than two hundred feet deep, and a hundred broad; yet the lava in one place has filled it up. I could not have believed that so great a quantity of matter could have been thrown out in so short a time, if I had not since examined the whole course of the lava myself. This great compact body will certainly retain some heat many months; at this time, much rain having fallen for some days past, the lava smokes, as if it ran afresh: and

about ten days ago, when I was up the mountain with lord Stormont, we thrust sticks into the crevices of the lava, which took fire immediately: but to proceed with my journal.

The 24th, Vesuvius continued to throw up stones as on the preceding days: during the whole of this eruption it had differed in this circumstance from the eruption of 1766, when no stones were thrown out of the crater from the moment the lava ran freely.

Sunday 25th small ashes fell all day at Naples; they issued from the crater of the volcano, and formed a vast column, as black as the mountain itself, so that the shadow of it was marked out on the surface of the sea; continual flashes of forked, or zig-zag lightning shot from this black column, the thunder of which was heard in the neighbourhood of the mountain, but not at Naples; there was no clouds in the sky at this time, except those of smoke issuing from the crater of Vesuvius. I was much pleased with this phenomenon, which I had not seen before in that perfection.

Monday 26th the smoke continued, but not so thick, neither were there any flashes of the mountain lightning. As no lava has appeared after this column of black smoke, which must have been occasioned by some inward operation of fire, I am apt to think that the lava, which should naturally have followed this symptom, has broke its way into some deeper cavern, where it is silently brooding future mischief; and I shall be much mistaken if it does not break out a few months hence.

Tuesday 27th no more black smoke

smoak, nor any signs of eruption.

I have just sent a present to the British Museum of a complete collection of every sort of matter produced by Mount Vesuvius, which I have been collecting with great pains for these three years past; and it will be a great satisfaction to me if, by the means of this collection, some of my countrymen learned in natural history, may be enabled to make some useful discoveries relative to volcanos.

SUMMER AMUSEMENTS.

AS several extraordinary entertainments were exhibited to the public during the course of the summer, viz. the *Ridotto al Fresco* at Vauxhall gardens; the *Bal Paré* at Ranelagh; and the *Stratford Jubilee*; our readers will here find a particular and an authentic account of each.

RIDOTTO AL FRESCO.

Wednesday, May 10, 1769

It may not be improper to premise, that a *Ridotto al Fresco*, is an assembly in the open air, consisting chiefly of music, dancing, and illumination. This species of entertainment is very common in Italy, but has not been very frequent in England, nor do we know of any in this kingdom, before those two exhibited at the Spring-Gardens, Vauxhall, by the late Mr. Jonathan Tyers, in the year 1732. Both these, as we have been informed, were elegant, splendid, and discovered great invention and taste. The undertaking was hazardous, on account of the great expence; however, it was

crowned with success by an indulgent public. And here, we cannot resist the temptation of paying a just tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Tyers, who, not only in the instance just mentioned, but during the whole time he presided as manager of Vauxhall-Gardens, showed a grateful sense of public favour, by the immense-sums he constantly expended in the cultivation and improvement of this delightful place; by which, he not only supported its consequence and superiority over every thing similar to it for almost half a century, but left it at his death the admiration of all Europe.

The only objection to these gardens in wet weather, had been the want of other places of shelter besides the great room. The difficulty of effecting this, without destroying the rural beauties of the place, seems to have been the only reason of its not having been attempted in the life-time of Mr. Tyers: however, in the year 1769, an attempt was made to remove this inconvenience, the particulars of which are as follow.

The walks which form the quadrangle (in the centre of which stands the orchestra) are covered with an elegant canopy, over elliptic arches, ornamented on the sides with festoons of flowers painted by the best artists. At the angles, the canopy breaks into a temple, covered by a dome of a singular construction, highly pleasing from its elegant simplicity. This is finely embellished within by a drawn up curtain on each side, very neatly painted, and without, by a representation of a ducal coronet.

By the elegance of the design and

and masterly manner of the execution of it, the rural beauties of the whole gardens are greatly heightened and improved; thus, what was intended as a matter of convenience and shelter, in case of wet weather, has contributed to the grandeur of the place. A design thus happily executed, must do great credit to the ingenuity of the inventor; who, when convenience only was expected, could thus judiciously effect two purposes.

Simul et jocunda et idonea dicere vitæ.

The expence of the above improvements, being, as we are assured from good authority, upwards of two thousand pounds; they were first exhibited to the public on the night of the *Ridotto*, when the price of the tickets for admision were half a guinea for one person only.

The extraordinary preparations for this night's entertainment, were truly grand and superb; we mean with respect to the illuminations.

The great room was illuminated with upwards of five thousand glass lamps, beautifully disposed round the pillars, over the doors, &c. &c. A platform was laid the whole length of the great room for dancing, where a considerable band of music attended for that purpose. The disposition of the lights, seemed the best calculated to produce an amazing effect of any thing of the kind ever exhibited to the public. Between the pillars hung festoons of artificial flowers, which gave an elegant and rural simplicity to the whole.

Besides the platform in the great room, there was another very large

one, upwards of eighty feet in length, in the cross walks, for dancing, covered with an awning suspended in the trees, thirty feet high, under which were five chandeliers, containing upwards of fifteen hundred glass lamps. Here also a band of music was placed in a gallery built among the trees. The grand orchestra in the quadrangle, was decorated with festoons of flowers, and several hundred additional lamps; and the prince's room was also finely illuminated for such as chose to dance cotillons.

Soon after seven o'clock, a grand concert of vocal and instrumental music began in the great orchestra, which continued till eleven, during which time the company had an opportunity of viewing the improvements, which, as the gardens were illuminated with the addition of near a thousand lamps more than they ever had been, the whole made a very striking and splendid appearance.

When the concert ended, the dancing began at the different places appointed for it, and continued till near seven o'clock in the morning. The company was very numerous (consisting, as we are well informed, of upwards of seven thousand persons) and probably such an elegant and well dressed assembly was never before seen in this kingdom. The splendor of the place, and the brilliancy of the company, was no bad resemblance of the description of the Mahometan paradise.

The general satisfaction, however, sustained some little diminution, from the prodigious course, which rendered it impossible

fible for the whole to be supplied with refreshments with an expedition equal to the demand, notwithstanding there was a sufficient quantity of provisions.

This circumstance abated (with those who were not accommodated agreeable to their impatience) much of that pleasantry which otherwise might have subsisted; but as the place was unexpectedly overpowered with numbers, it is wonderful the whole was not more incommoded in its conduct and regularity.

Whatever the emoluments of this undertaking might be, we are unable to say; but we think it but justice to remark, that through the whole there appeared so much elegance, unlimited expence, and labour to give general satisfaction, all dependant on the uncertainty of the weather, we think the success with which it was attended, scarcely equalled the merit and hazard of such an attempt.

B A L P A R É.

*At Ranelagh House, Friday May
12, 1769.*

WE with, without departing from that impartiality we ever mean to be guided by, and which is due from us to the public, we could speak as favourably of this entertainment as the former; but justice obliges us to declare, that though the price of admission to the *Bal Paré* was double that of the *Ridotto al Fresco*, it was by no means equal to it, either in respect to elegance or expence. The only difference betwixt the enter-

tainment of this and the common nights, was an illumination of *wax-lights* in the amphitheatre; and a very indifferent addition to the usual illuminations in the gardens, which consisted principally of a few triumphal arches, and a sea-horse floating in the canal, illuminated with lamps; round which a band of music played in boats, for the entertainment of the company; and lastly, the whole was concluded with a ball, very irregularly conducted. On account of the extraordinary price of admission, the company were promised an accommodation of wines, sweet-meats, &c. which, however, by no means answered the expectations of the public; infomuch, that the dissatisfaction arose to such a pitch, that numbers forced their way into the wine-cellar, and helped themselves, which threw the conduct of the place into such confusion, as to render the whole very disagreeable and unsatisfactory.

An Account of the JUBILEE at Stratford upon-Avon, in honour of SHAKESPEARE.

THE morning of the 6th of September, was ushered in with a serenade to the ladies by the Drury-Lane band, who sung the following summons:

Let beauty with the sun arise,
To Shakespeare tribute pay;
With heav'nly smiles and sparkling eyes,
Give lustre to the day.

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Each smile she gives protects his
name,

What faces shall dare to frown;
Nor Envy's self can blast thy fame,
Which beauty deigns to crown.

After this compliment to the ladies, they were entertained with a ballad, written by Mr. Garrick, called the Warwickshire bard. (See our POETRY, page 140.)

The whole town of Stratford being roused by these performances, several guns were fired, and the magistrates assembled about eight in one of the principal streets. A public breakfast was to be in the town-hall at nine; to which every purchaser of a guinea ticket for the various entertainments, (the masquerade only excepted, which being of a peculiar nature, was rated separately at half a guinea) was admitted upon the payment of a shilling, and regaled with tea, coffee, and chocolate. Previous to the coming of the company the mayor, at the head of the corporation, in their formalities, waited upon Mr. Garrick, and in a polite speech, delivered by the town-clerk, presented him with a medallion of Shakespeare, carved on a piece of the famous mulberry-tree, planted by the immortal poet's own hand, and richly set in gold. Mr. Garrick, to this elegant mark of attention, made a suitable reply, and fastened the present about his neck. Soon after this circumstance, the room filled exceedingly, and it was a pleasing compliment to genius, to observe honours universally worn in favour of our first dramatic writer, by the ladies as well as the gentlemen, from the most elevated rank to the meanest situation.

From the town-hall the company retired at half after ten to the church, where the oratorio of Judith was given, conducted by Dr. Arne. This piece opened at eleven. The singers were Mr. Vernon, Mr. Champness, Master Brown, Mrs. Bartholemon, a young lady pupil to Dr. Arne, and Mrs. Baddely; the chorusses were very full; the band was excellent, being composed of Drury-Lane orchestra; and at the end of the first act, a solo on the violin was performed by Mr. Bartholemon. When the oratorio was finished, Mr. Garrick, at the head of the performers, walked in procession to the amphitheatre erected on the occasion, Mr. Vernon and the rest singing the following chorus to an accompaniment of proper instruments.

This is the day, a holiday! a holiday!

Drive spleen and rancour far away.

This is the day, a holiday! a holiday!

Drive care and sorrow far away.

Here nature nurs'd her darling boy,
From whom all care and sorrow
fly,

Whose harp the Muses strung;
From heart to heart let joy re-
bound,

Now, now, we tread enchanted
ground,

Here Shakespeare walked and
sung!

At three a public ordinary for ladies and gentlemen was kept in the amphitheatre; where they were likewise occasionally entertained with songs and catches (see our POETRY) adapted to the purpose of the Jubilee, till the necessary hour of retiring to dress for the assembly.

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The assembly room was built in imitation of the Ranelagh rotunda, and about half as large, which was crowded with company; among others the duke of Manchester, lord Northampton, lord Hertford, lord Carlisle, lord Shrewsbury, lord Pigot, &c. &c. the minuets continued till twelve o'clock, at which time country-dances commenced, and about three every body retired.

On the 7th a public breakfast was given on the same terms as the day before; after which, the company repaired to the amphitheatre from the town-hall—where the dedication ode (see our POETRY, page 75) was performed, under the direction of Dr. Arne. The recitative parts were spoken by Mr. Garrick; and perhaps, in all the characters he ever played, he never shewed more powers, more judgment, or ever made a stronger impression on the minds of his auditors. In fact, though he was frequently disturbed by the turbulence of applause, it was generally allowed, that the ode, in point of poetical merit, no less than the speaker in point of elocution, was justly entitled to universal admiration.

In the performance of this ode, Mr. Garrick distinguished himself equally as a poet, an actor, and a gentleman: he lamented in a prose address that none of the poets of our universities had undertaken the subject, who were so infinitely more capable than himself to execute the arduous task; he expressed an apprehension, that his zeal for the honour of Shakespeare had led him to expose the weakness of his own abilities, but hoped his motive would apologize

for defects: he declared that he did not at first foresee the difficulties he had to struggle with; but that having once embarked, he found himself in the situation of Macbeth, and saw it no less dangerous to retreat than go on; he however had one consolation, he politely added, turning to Dr. Arne, that the first musical genius of this country did not think his muse unworthy the exercise of his talents, and that he was certain the composer's excellence would amply atone for the imperfections of the author.

On the conclusion of the ode, Mr. King, who stood in a direct line to the orchestra, having expressed his intention of attacking the reputation of Shakespeare, went round, and speedily (taking off his great coat) came out in the orchestra, in a suit of fashionable blue, ornamented with silver frogs, to support the justice of his allegations. Several, who thought he was really serious, seemed extremely dissatisfied with him, while numbers who saw into the intention were highly diverted, and testified a satisfaction proportioned to the astonishment expressed by the less informed part of the auditory. Mr. King having executed his share of the task, Mr. Garrick addressed the ladies in a poetical speech, complimenting them on the regard they had always shewn to Shakespeare, and exhorting them to sustain the reputation of a poet, who was so remarkable for supporting the dignity of the female character. During this performance, the benches in various parts of the amphitheatre, from the prodigious pressure of the company, gave way; and had it not been

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been for a peculiar interposition of Providence, lord Carlisle, who was much hurt by the fall of a door, must have inevitably been killed.

The masquerade on Thursday evening was crowded to an extravagance; dresses of the meanest sort were hired at four guineas each; those, however, who could not be accommodated to their minds, or did not chuse to pay such a sum, were admitted with masques only, and there were many present even without masks. Among the most distinguished characters in the masquerade, lady Pembroke, Mrs. Bouverie, and Mrs. Crewe, habited like witches, excited the general admiration; the astonishing contrast between the deformed of the feigned, and the beauty of the real appearance was every where observed; nor did Miss Ladbroke, as a shepherdess, and Miss Nancy Ladbroke, as Dame Quickly in the Merry Wives of Windsor, pass without the universal applause of the company: lord Grosvenor was magnificently dressed in an Eastern habit; but the principal part of the nobility were in dominos: the literary gentlemen were also in dominos, the unusual wetness of the evening, and want of proper convenience, rendering it impossible, or disagreeable, to take any

pains in the assumption of fictitious characters: Mrs. Yates personated a *petit maitre*; Mr. Yates, as a waggoner, gave much satisfaction; as did a gentleman from Oxford in lord Ogleby; Mr. Boswell, the celebrated friend of Paoli, appeared in a Corsican habit, with pistols in his belt, and a musket at his back; in gold letters, in the front of his cap, were the words PAOLI AND LIBERTY.

About five every body retired; as the weather continued remarkably wet, and as that wetness consequently prevented the pageant, or representation of all Shakespeare's characters, the principal part of the company, who had carriages of their own, went out of town: nevertheless, there was a tolerable assembly at Shakespeare's Hall in the evening.—Mrs Garrick danced a minuet beyond description gracefully, and joined in the country-dances, which ended about four o'clock, and terminated the jubilee.

The great rains were a material prejudice to the entertainment; but it is the opinion of many, especially the admirers of Mr. Garrick, that they were more than overpaid for their fatigue, expence, and disappointment, by that gentleman's recital of the ode.

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